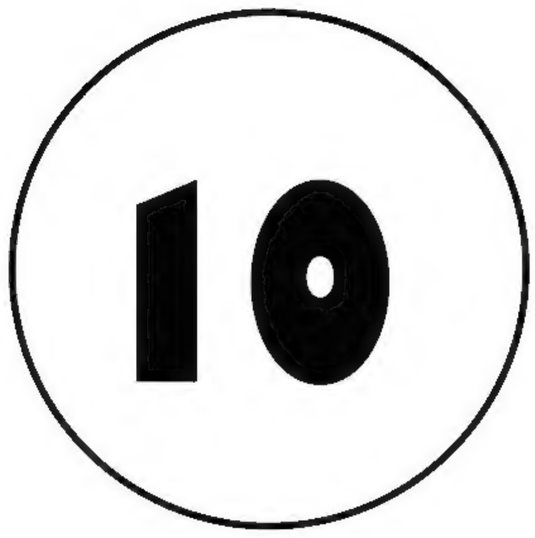
SUZUKA



Kouji Seo

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY

David Ury

LETTERED BY

North Market Street Graphics

DEL REY

BALLANTINE BOOKS • NEW YORK

A Note from the Author

THANKS TO ALL YOU SUZUKA *FANS, THE SERIES FINALLY MADE IT TO DOUBLE DIGITS! LAST YEAR TURNED OUT TO BE A SUPER LUCKY YEAR FOR ME BECAUSE MY MANGA GOT MADE INTO AN ANIME. THIS YEAR I HOPE TO IMPROVE MY MANGA SKILLS EVEN MORE SO THAT THEY WILL MEASURE UP TO EVERYONE'S EXPECTATIONS. I STILL HAVE A LOT TO LEARN.*

10

SUZUKA

KOUJI SEO

SUZUKA

10

Kouji Seo

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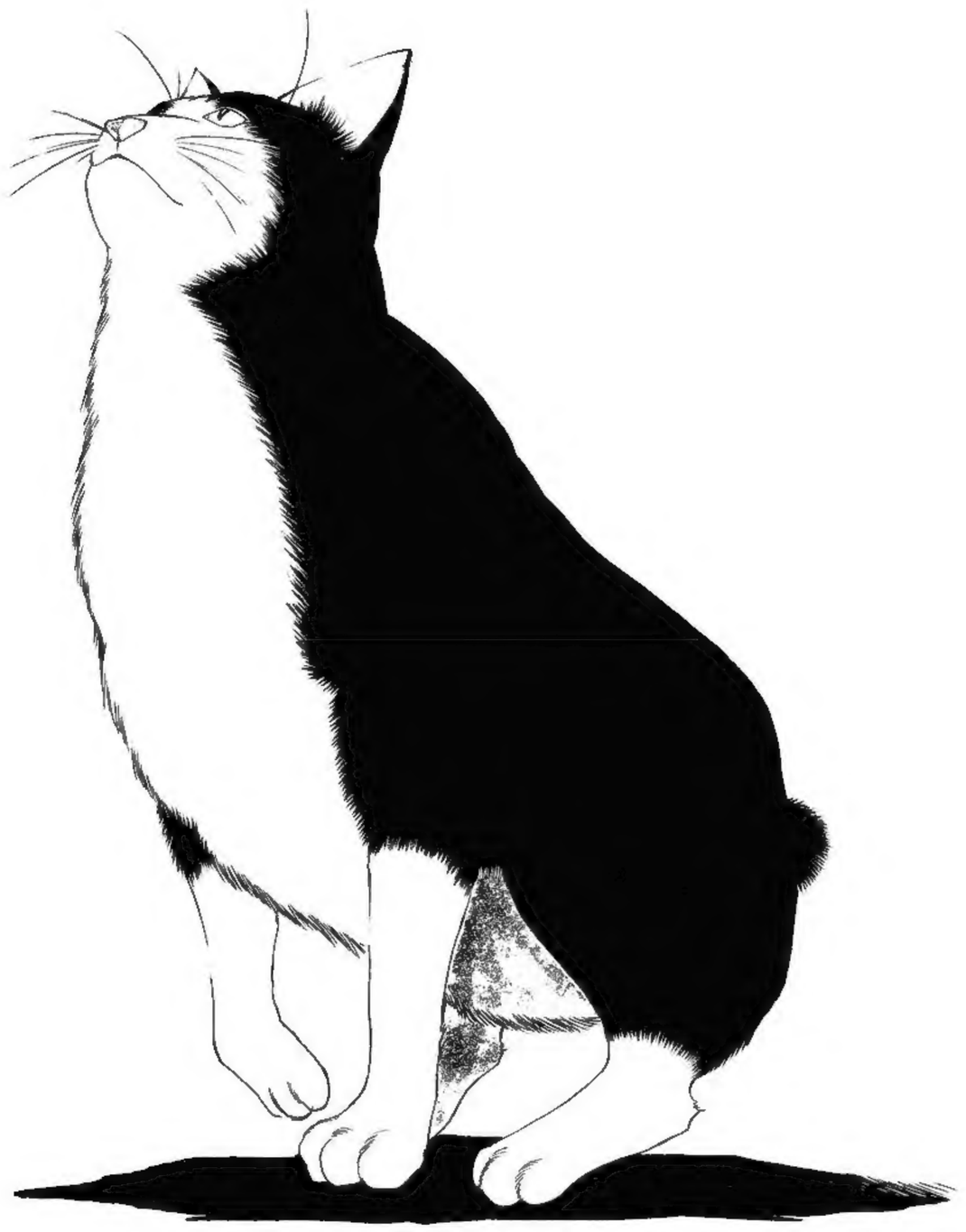


LET'S SEE...

YOKOHAMA Walker

HEY...HAVE YOU DECIDED WHERE WE'RE GOING YET?

EVERYBODY GOES THERE ON THE WEEKEND. IT'LL BE PACKED.

WELL... THEN...WHAT ABOUT THE MINATOMIRAI PORT AREA...?

HOW ABOUT THE HAKKEIJIMA SEA PARADISE!?

FLIP

AH... NO... NOT HERE...

YOKOHAMA Walker

WELL, LET'S SEE...

THAT'S WAY TOO FAR! EVEN IF WE LEFT RIGHT NOW, WE'D PRETTY MUCH HAVE TO TURN RIGHT AROUND AND COME BACK.

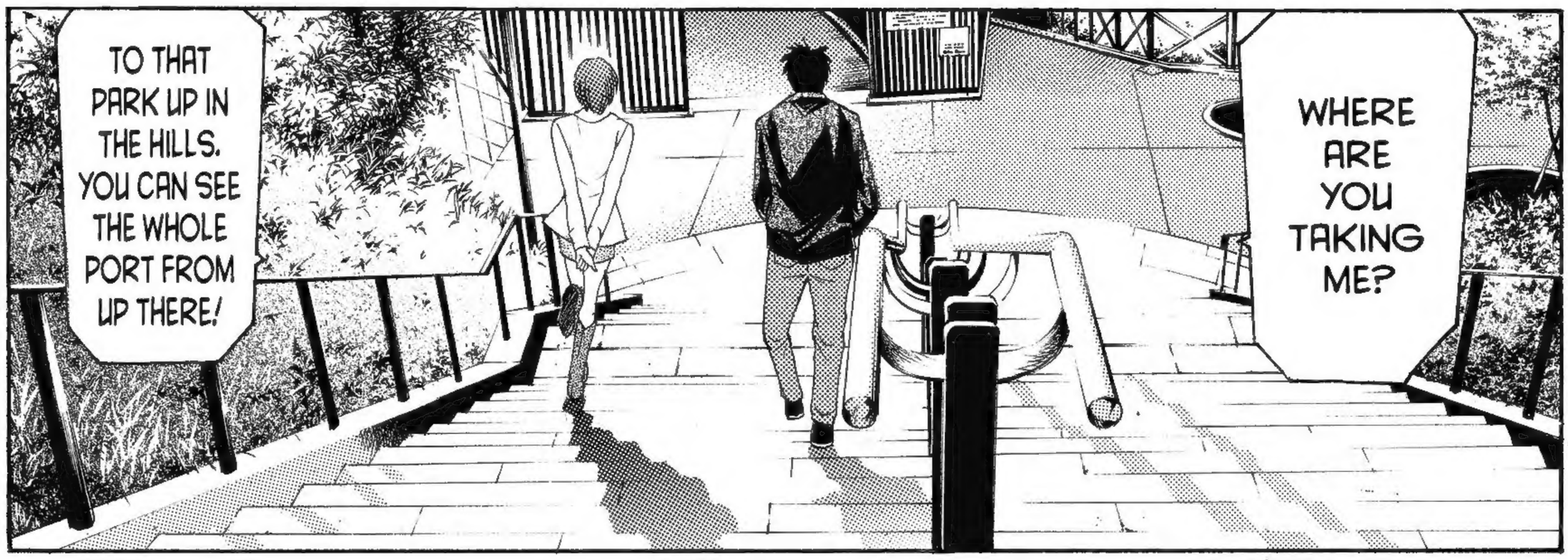
TCH, YOU'RE HOPE-LESS.

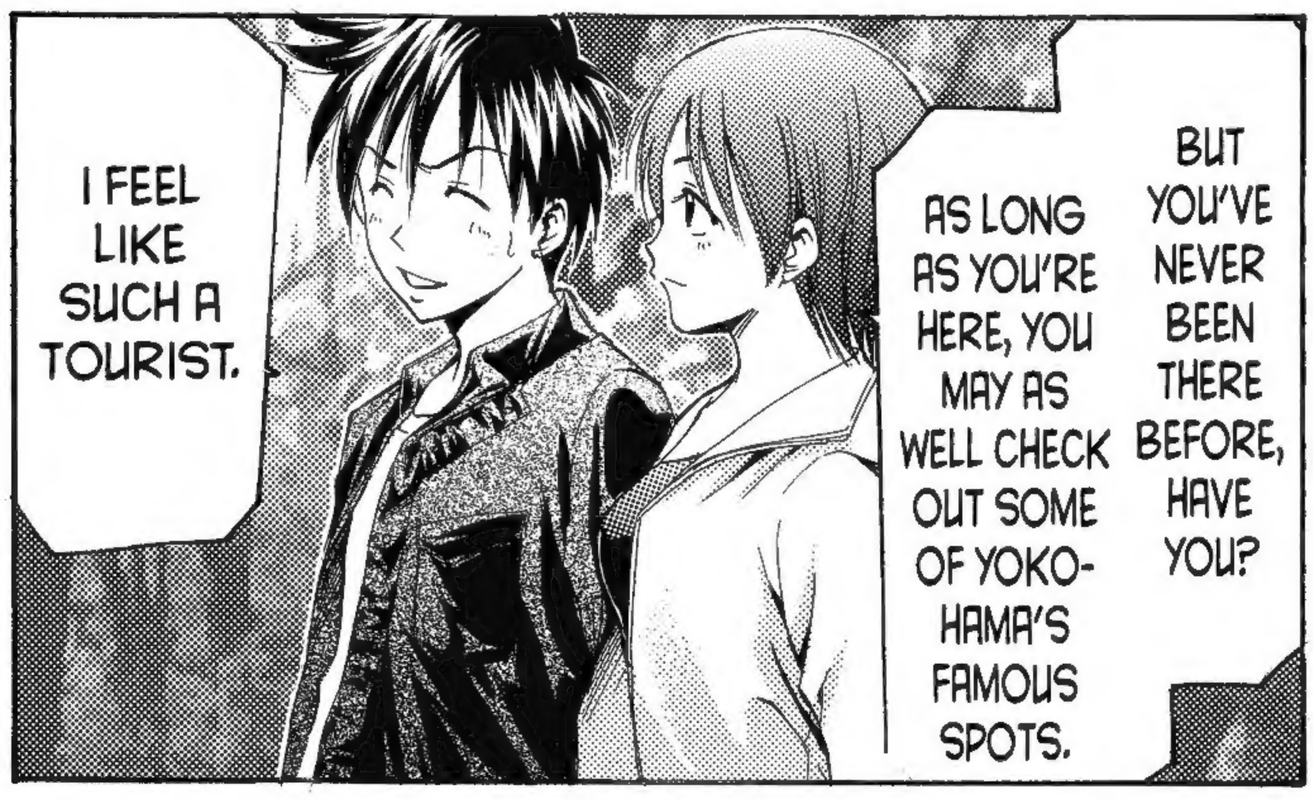
.....

SUZUKA

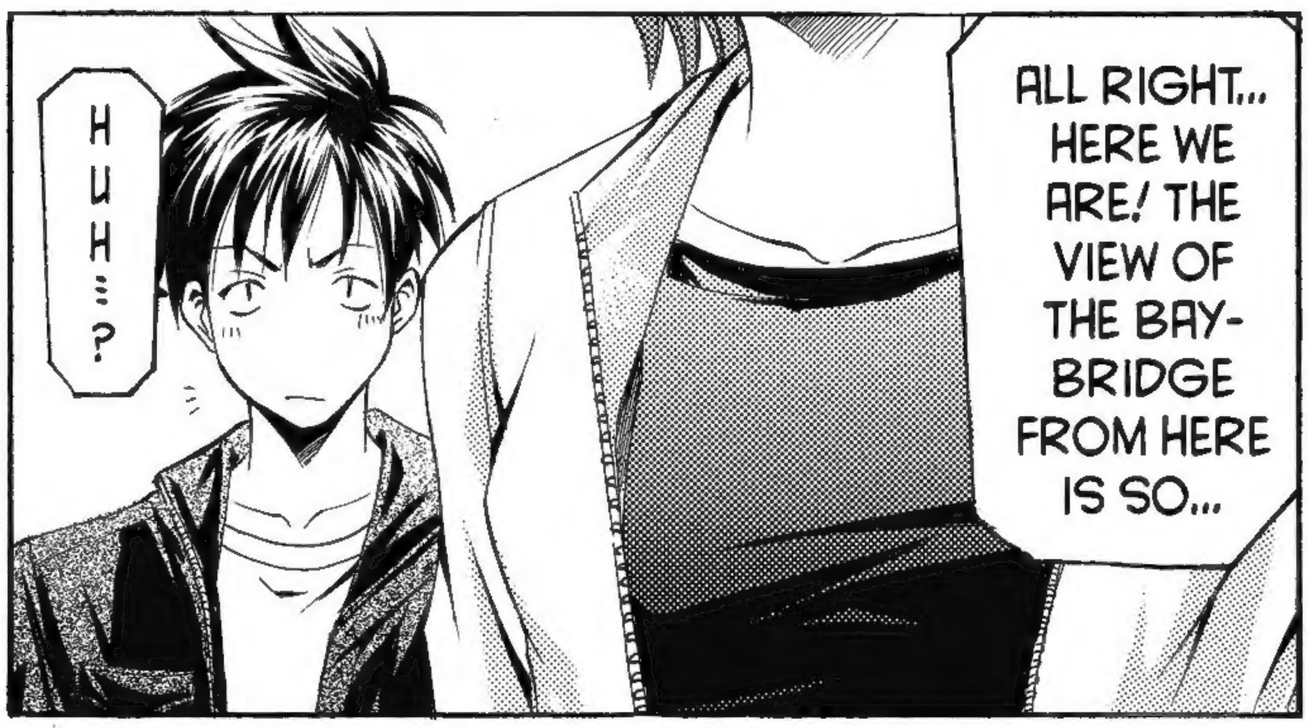
#79 Night View

ROCKO


TO THAT PARK UP IN THE HILLS. YOU CAN SEE THE WHOLE PORT FROM UP THERE!
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?


I FEEL LIKE SUCH A TOURIST.
AS LONG AS YOU'RE HERE, YOU MAY AS WELL CHECK OUT SOME OF YOKO-HAMA'S FAMOUS SPOTS.
BUT YOU'VE NEVER BEEN THERE BEFORE, HAVE YOU?

WHAT... I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU WERE SICK OF THAT PLACE...
I AM.


HUH...?
ALL RIGHT... HERE WE ARE! THE VIEW OF THE BAY-BRIDGE FROM HERE IS SO...

CHATTER

CHATTER

HA HA HA, OH, I'D NEVER DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT....

I NEED TO GO TO THE BATH-ROOM.

HATO BUS TOUR

WE'LL TAKE A ONE HOUR BREAK HERE! PLEASE DON'T WANDER OFF TOO FAR. THANK YOU.

SCREECH

DA ジャカ

DA ジャカ

DA ジャカ

WHOA.... THESE ARE REAL TOURISTS.

.....

AHAAA!!

DA ジャカ

DA ジャカ

DA ジャカ

WOO WOO WOO!!

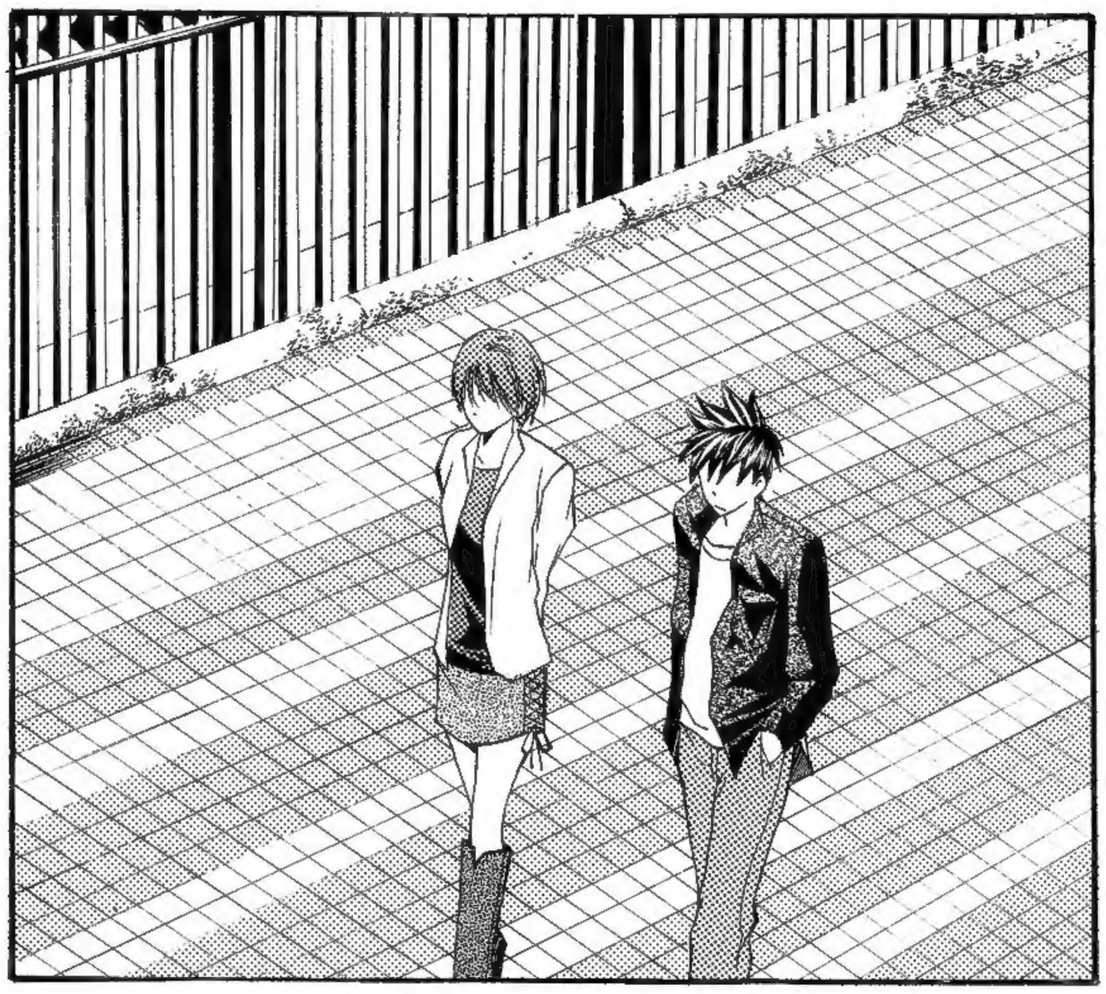
SO MUCH FOR OUR PEACEFUL DAY AT THE PARK.

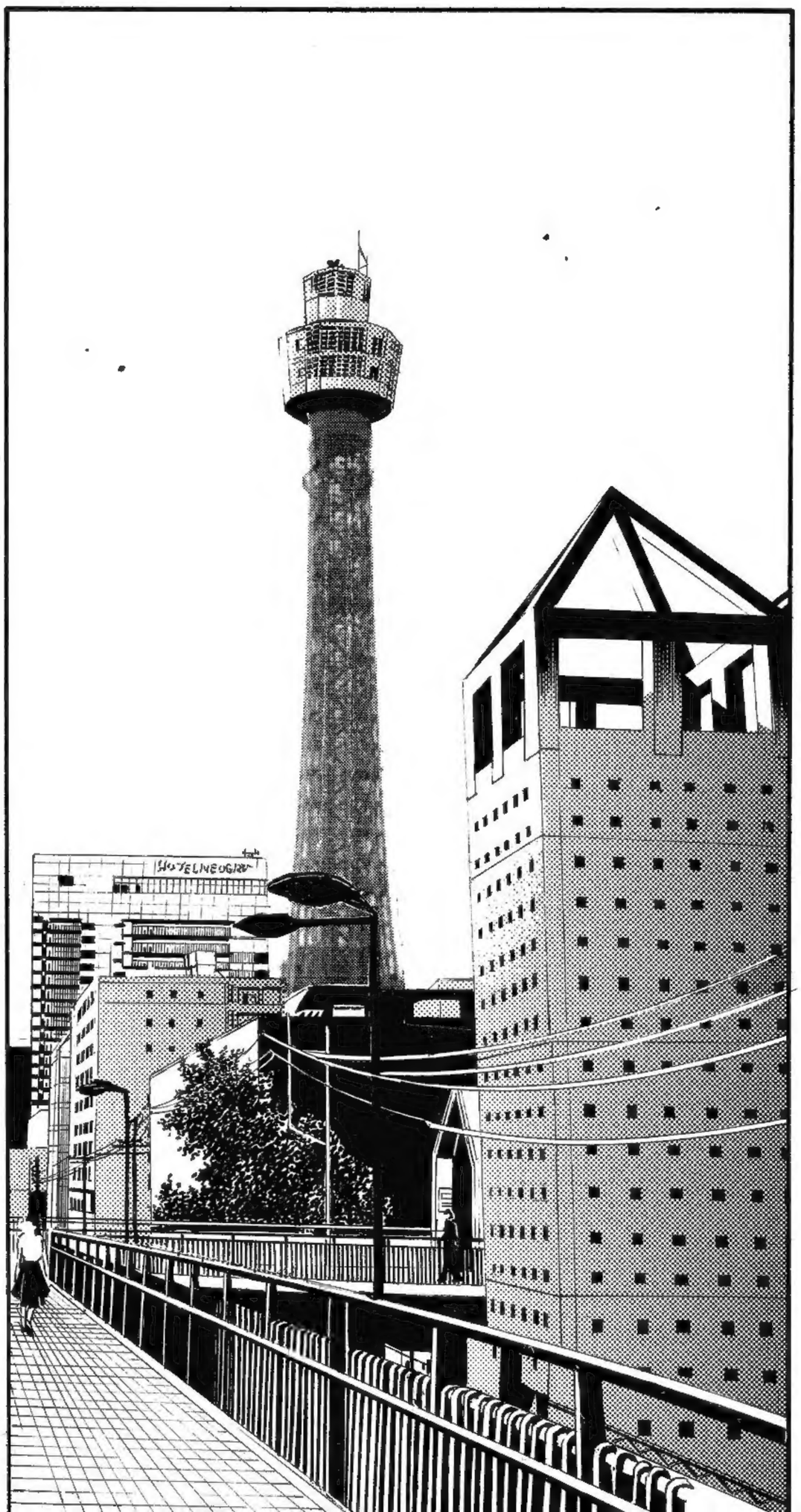
.....

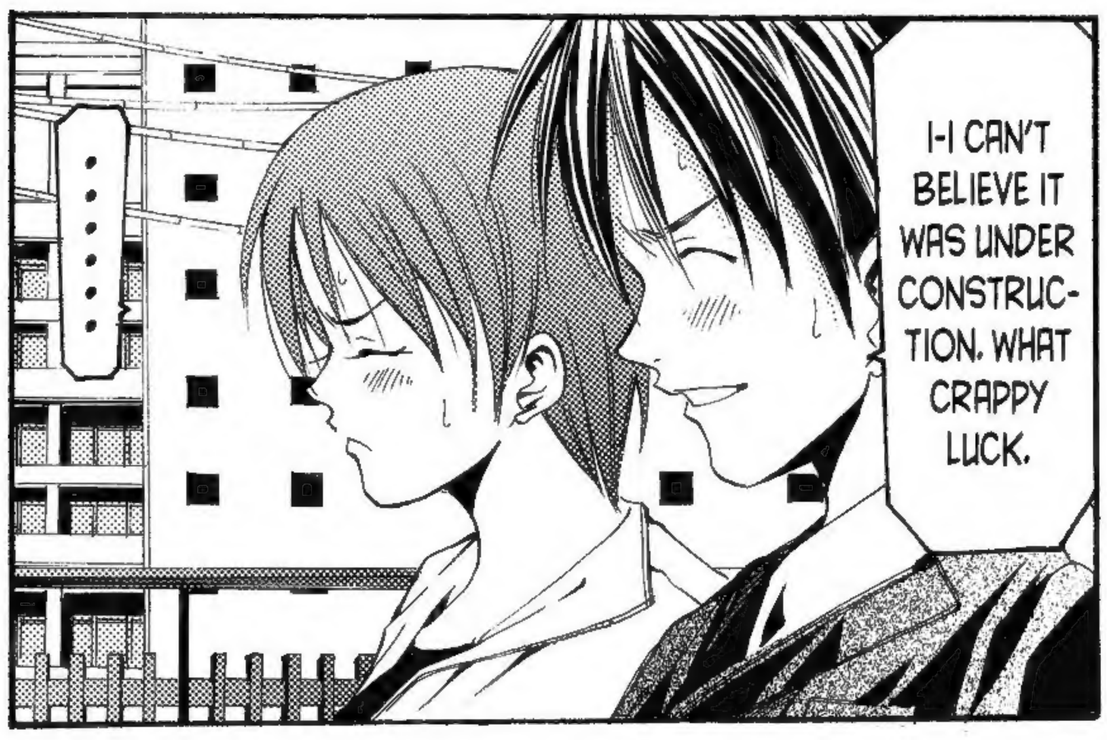
WOOOOOO!!

NO VISIT TO YOKOHAMA WOULD BE COMPLETE WITHOUT A TRIP TO THE TOP OF THE TOWER!!

HEY, I KNOW!! LET'S GO TO THE MARINE TOWER!!







THAT'S WHAT YOKOHAMA'S FAMOUS FOR, RIGHT!

CHINATOWN!!

NO...

GOT A PROBLEM WITH THAT!?

YEAH, WELL, NOW I DO WANNA GO THERE AND SPEND THE DAY EATING...

BUT...YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T WANT TO GO THERE AND SPEND THE WHOLE DAY EATING...

SH-SHUT UP. IT'S AROUND HERE SOME-WHERE.

UH... SO WHERE'S THIS "HOLE IN THE WALL" YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT....THE ONE WHERE THE LOCALS GO?

IT'S HARD TO FIND, OKAY! THAT'S WHY THEY CALL IT "A HOLE IN THE WALL." NOW SHUT YOUR MOUTH!

I THINK WE'VE BEEN GOING IN CIRCLES. ARE YOU REALLY FROM HERE?

OKAY, OKAY...

WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS, CHOSHU RIKI?

GRRMBLE

YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET ALL PISSED.

I'M NOT!!

WHEN I'M PISSED, YOU'LL KNOW IT!

産医

WHAT?

AH...HERE IT IS!! ON THE CORNER!!

THE FOOD'S SUP-POSED TO BE GREAT.

FWAAAA

ISN'T THIS THAT HOLE IN THE WALL THEY SHOWED ON TV?

THAT'S ENOUGH!

I'M GOING HOME!!

WHO NEEDS RESTAU-RANTS!!

CLOP

YUM! THIS PORK BUN IS SO GOOD!! EATING WHILE YOU WALK AROUND IS THE WAY TO DO IT.

CLOP

ASAHINA...

WHERE...?

WHY DON'T WE TRY GOING BACK OVER THERE...?

IT SHOULDN'T BE TOO CROWDED NOW!

THE PARK.

COME ON, LET'S JUST GO CHECK IT OUT!!

OKAY!?

STEP

IT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRY TO BE SO NICE.

THERE'S SUPPOSED TO BE SOME KIND OF EVENT GOING ON TONIGHT... MAYBE EVERYBODY WENT THERE.

I TOLD YOU NOBODY WOULD BE HERE!

FWISH

SO WE GET THE WHOLE PLACE TO OUR-SELVES

HMMPH...

HUH...?

WOW!!

WHAT A VIEW!!

YEAH...
THIS IS WAY COOLER THAN I EXPECTED.
YOKOHAMA IS AWESOME.

YEAH, IT DOES.
ISN'T IT?
YOKOHAMA LOOKS REALLY PRETTY AT NIGHT.

THAT DOESN'T BOTHER ME.
...BUT IT'S A LITTLE WINDY.

REALLY?

WELL, IT WAS KIND OF A PAIN AT FIRST, BUT I'M GLAD I CAME...

...TO YOKO-HAMA.

I FEEL LIKE WE'RE REALLY A COUPLE NOW.

SURE...

FSSSWAAA

GRIN

WHAT'S THAT SUP-POSED TO MEAN?

HEY...

ASAHINA...

YEAH...?

HUH...!?

I...

I KIND OF... FORCED YOU TO KISS ME THAT ONE TIME...

YEAH...

.....

ARE YOU...

...MAD AT ME?

.....

WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME THIS NOW?

YOU IDIOT...

WHAT...?

BECAUSE YOU NEVER TALK ABOUT IT.

I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU DIDN'T WANT ME TO KISS YOU.

I WAS JUST TOO EMBAR-RASSED...

...TO TALK ABOUT IT, THAT'S ALL.

SO, I FIGURED I'D BETTER APOLOGIZE... IT'S BEEN BUGGING ME EVER SINCE IT HAPPENED.

. . . . . .
O-OH. SORRY FOR ASKING SUCH A WEIRD QUESTION.
JUST FOR-GET IT!
WHAT...?
YOU REALLY ARE AN IDIOT...
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?
IF I DIDN'T LIKE IT.... WHY WOULD I EVEN GO OUT WITH YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE?

OH...
OKAY...

TSSSS....

GLANCE

THUMP

THUMP

THUMP

THUMP

FWAHHH

BUT...

WHATEVER. THEY PROBABLY CAME HERE TO MAKE OUT, TOO.

SHOCK

!?

STOP... THAT COUPLE OVER THERE IS LOOKING AT US.

. . . . . .

SORRY ABOUT THAT, DUDE. JUST GO BACK TO WHAT YOU WERE DOING.

Y-YEAH!!

H-HOW GROSS! I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY'RE MAKING OUT IN PUBLIC.

YEAH!!

SH-SHOULD WE HEAD BACK?

HUH?

.....

.....

HOW CAN THEY DO THAT?

I KNOW...

LOOKS LIKE THINGS ARE GOING PRETTY WELL FOR THOSE TWO.

WHAT? WHO ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

BATHS

SUZUKA

YAMATO AND SUZUKA-CHAN. THEY WENT TO YOKOHAMA ON A DATE TODAY.

A DATE IN YOKOHAMA... IT'S SUCH A CLICHÉ.

I THINK IT'S NICE. THERE'RE LOTS OF COOL PLACES TO SEE.

YOU KNOW...I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF YAMATO GOT CARRIED AWAY AND ENDED UP DOING SOMETHING NAUGHTY....WHO KNOWS, MAYBE THEY'RE DOING IT RIGHT NOW.

WHAA.... REALLY?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "SOME-THING NAUGHTY"?

DON'T TRY AND ACT ALL INNOCENT, YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT I MEAN.

#80 Nursing

CLINK カチャ

CLINK カチャ

CLINK カチャ

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I HAD DINNER WITH JUST YOU, MIHO.

IT'S SO QUIET WITHOUT YAMATO-KUN AND EVERYONE.

SLUMP ズーン

HEY, MOM. WHEN ARE THEY COMING BACK?

UH... I DON'T KNOW. I TOLD THEM NOT TO BE TOO LATE.

IT'S OKAY. YAMATO'S NOT A LITTLE KID ANYMORE.

BESIDES, SUZUKA-CHAN IS WITH HIM.

B-BUT...!

CRUNCH

CRUNCH

IT'S ALREADY LATE!!

FWOOSH

カ!! タ!!

AREN'T YOU WORRIED ABOUT THEM!?

SAOTOME-SAN WAS SAYING SOME-THING WEIRD ABOUT THEM...

NEVER MIND!! LET'S GO, GORO-CHAN!!

MEOWW

SCRITCH

SCRITCH

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

AH... WHERE ARE YOU GOING, MIHO?

CLOP カ

THANKS FOR DINNER.

CLOPPA カ

SLAM

TSSSWAAA

TCH... WHAT THE HECK COULD THEY BE DOING...

MEOW

AH=!

KALANK

KALANK

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

.....

JUST LEAVE ME ALONE...

KALANK

KALANK

THAT'S SO SWEET! YOU'RE LIKE A LITTLE PUPPY WAITING FOR A MASTER WHO ISN'T EVER COMING HOME.

YOU SHOULDN'T BE OUT HERE RIGHT AFTER YOUR BATH, YA KNOW. YOU'LL CATCH COLD.

I DON'T THINK SO. I BET RIGHT ABOUT NOW THEY'RE CHECKING INTO A FANCY YOKOHAMA HOTEL...

H-HE IS TOO COMING HOME.

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT.

SHUT UP!! JUST GO AWAY, YOU PERVERT!!

...THAT I MIND THAT YAMATO-KUN AND SUZUKA-CHAN ARE TOGETHER, IT'S JUST THAT...

IT'S NOT...

YEAH! LET'S GO!!

LET'S GO CHECK OUT THAT SHRINE, MIHO-CHAN!!

I'M NOT SCARED! I KNOW YOU'LL FIGHT OFF ALL THE GHOSTS!

BUT WE'D BETTER BE CAREFUL. THEY SAY IT'S HAUNTED.

I KNOW, THAT COUPLE REALLY PISSED ME OFF.

IT WAS SUCH AN AMAZING VIEW, AND THEY HAD TO GO AND SPOIL IT.

. . . . !

HE USED TO SPEND A LOT MORE TIME WITH ME BACK THEN...

I BOUGHT SOME PEACH SWEET BUNS. WANNA SHARE SOME WITH US?

AH... MIHO-CHAN.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

...

SLAM

AH... MIHO-CHAN!

FWOOSH

NO WAY!

WHO KNOWS?

WHAT'S WITH HER?

SHE'S SICK?

ASAHIYU BATHS

I GUESS SHE CAUGHT A COLD.

YEAH... SHE WAS WAITING FOR YOU TWO OUTSIDE LAST NIGHT UNTIL PRETTY LATE.

BESIDES, IT'S JUST A MILD FEVER.

COUGH

COUGH

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

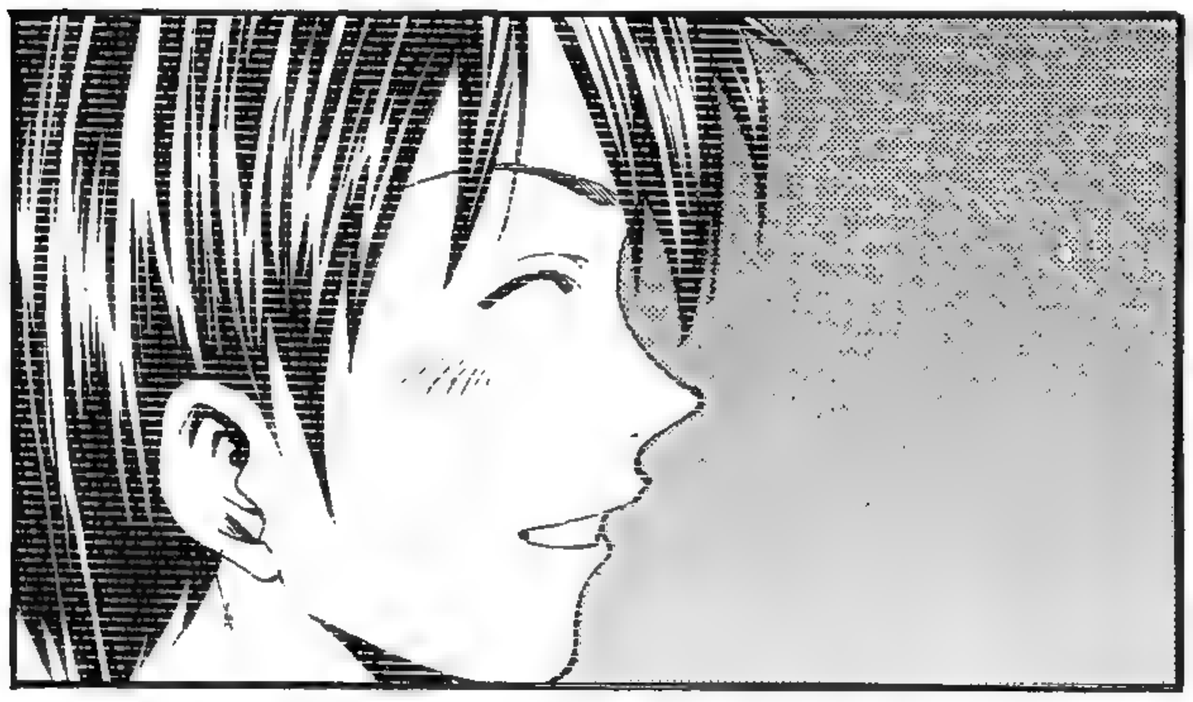
YEAH...

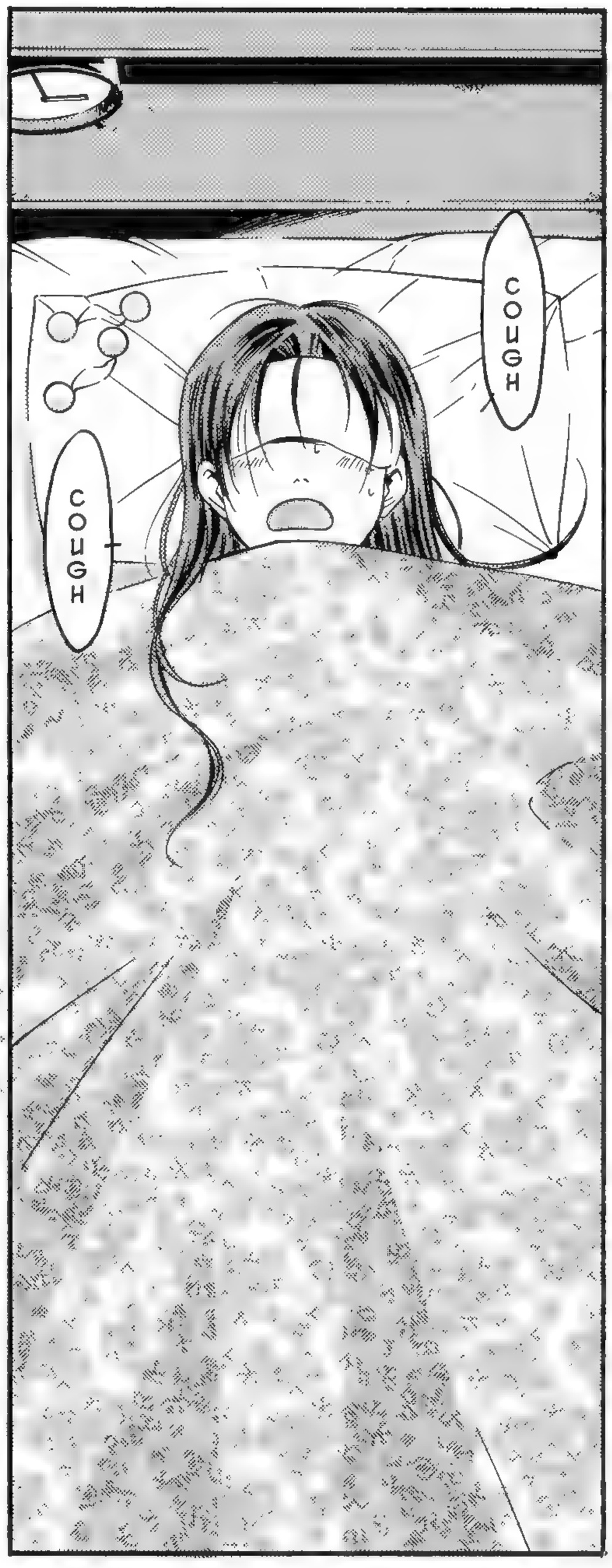
I-I FEEL REALLY BAD.

OH, NO!!

ANYWAY, YOU TWO SHOULD GET GOING. YOU'RE GONNA BE LATE FOR SCHOOL.

OKAY, SEE YOU LATER.


HMMPH...
WHAT ARE YOU SO HAPPY ABOUT...


COUGH
COUGH

WHAT!?
WHEN I GROW UP, WE'RE GONNA GET MARRIED!!

A-ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT... I PROMISE!!

CAN WE? CAN WE? PROMISE ME!

LIAR...

.....

IS SHE OKAY?

OH...IS MIHO-CHAN STILL SLEEPING?

YEAH, HER FEVER HAS COME DOWN A LOT.

ASAHIYU BATHS

I WONDER IF SHE'S OKAY...

SHE'LL GET UP ONCE SHE GETS HUNGRY.

BUT SHE SAYS SHE DOESN'T WANT TO GET OUT OF BED.

PLUNK

...

I'M WORRIED ABOUT HER...

I'LL GO CHECK ON HER LATER.

I FEEL BAD JUST LEAVING HER LIKE THAT...

HUH?

HE'S NOT EVEN WORRIED ENOUGH TO COME SEE ME.

STUPID YAMATO-KUN...!

I'M HUN-GRY.

GRUMBLE

KNOCK

KNOCK

SHOCK

MIHO-CHAN

YOU MUST BE HUNGRY, HUH?

I ASKED AYANO-SAN TO FIX YOU SOME RICE POR-RIDGE.

COUGH COUGH

W-WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE!?

A-ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!? YOU STILL LOOK KINDA SICK!

THAT'S NO GOOD. YOU'VE GOTTA EAT SOMETHING. YOU CAN'T TAKE MEDICINE ON AN EMPTY STOMACH.

I DON'T WANT ANY.

ALL RIGHT, WHAT DO YOU WANT, THEN?

.....

I DON'T WANT ANY!

MY PARENTS JUST SENT ME SOME FROM BACK HOME.

AH...HOW ABOUT SOME APPLES!?

I COULD MAKE THAT WITH JUST A REGULAR FRYING PAN.

HOW ABOUT KANSAI-STYLE OKONOMI-YAKI?

I WANT YOU TO MAKE ME SOME HI-ROSHIMA-STYLE OKONOMI-YAKI.

.....

!!

I DON'T WANT KANSAI-STYLE!!

WHAT!? I CAN'T. I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT KIND OF SKILLET.

SLAM

OKAY, WHATEVER. I DON'T KNOW WHY I EVEN BOTHERED.

TOSS

TURN

TIK TOK

TIK TOK

TIK TOK

I'M SO HUNGRY, I CAN'T EVEN SLEEP.

GRWWWLLL

SNIFF SNIFF

AH... SOME-THING SMELLS GOOD...

I BROUGHT YOU SOME HIROSHIMA-STYLE OKO-NOMIYAKI.

カラ〃

SLIDE

……!

HEY!

WHAT...?

……

PLUNK カラ〃

I CAN'T GUARANTEE THAT IT'S ACTUALLY EDIBLE THOUGH. I'VE NEVER EVEN MADE HIROSHIMA-STYLE BEFORE.

〃〃

FWUP

Y-YOU MADE IT FOR ME!?

ANYTHING FOR THE PRINCESS.

WH-WHAT DO YOU EXPECT? I HAD TO USE A REGULAR FRYING PAN.
YOU REALLY EXPECT ME TO EAT THIS?
IT LOOKS PRETTY SLOPPY.
OH WELL, I MIGHT AS WELL TASTE IT.
OKAY, I'M READY FOR A BITE. AHHHHH!
WHAT!? YOU WANT ME TO FEED IT TO YOU?
ASAHIYU BATHS
GEEZ...
CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING RIGHT, YAMATO-KUN...

IT WAS NICE OF HIM TO DO THAT, BUT...

SIGH...

HE SURE LEFT A LOT OF DISHES FOR ME.

WELL...

I GUESS I'LL FORGIVE HIM... SINCE HE'S TAKING SUCH GOOD CARE OF MIHO-CHAN.

#81 Trust

SUZUKA

APARTMENT COMPLEX

FURNITURE AND

WORLD PARTS

Re Best

DAMN... LATELY IT'S SO FREAKIN' COLD IN THE MORNING.

YEAH... I KNOW.

HEY, DO YOU WANNA GO GET SOME OKO-NOMIYAKI AFTER PRACTICE?

A COLD DAY LIKE THIS CALLS FOR A NICE HOT MEAL.

WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU'VE BEEN ALL SPACED OUT SINCE YESTERDAY.

I'M SORRY... WHAT?

HEY... ARE YOU LISTEN-ING?

WHAT!?

I SAID DO YOU WANNA GO GET SOME OKONOMI-YAKI AFTER SCHOOL?

TODAY...?

...

SORRY, I CAN'T.

THERE'S SOME-THING I HAVE TO DO AFTER PRACTICE.

OH, OKAY.

TSSSS

YEAH... SORRY.

I WONDER WHAT'S UP WITH HER.

MAYBE SHE'S WORRIED ABOUT SOME-THING.

YAMATO-KUN.

WHAT...

AH... ALL RIGHT.

KINUGASA-SENPAI WANTS YOU.

HE SAID TO COME OVER IN THIRTY SEC-ONDS.

YOU BETTER HURRY.

STEP カッ

STEP ッ!

AH... ASA-HINA!

YOU WERE ACTING KINDA WEIRD THIS MORNING...ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING?

WHAT?

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE UNDER A LOT OF PRESSURE AGAIN BECAUSE OF THIS TRACK STUFF.

WHAT?

I WISH SHE WOULD JUST TALK TO ME.

SURE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE "NOTHING."

AH...

STEP

STEP

AH... WAIT!

IT'S NOTHING.

HEY, HASH-IBA.

STEP カツン

STEP カツン

……

……?

HASHIBA!

HUH... WHY ARE YOU MAD AT ME?

I'M NOT MAD!

BUT DON'T CALL MY NAME UNLESS YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SAY!

UM...I WAS JUST WONDERING IF ASAHINA SAID ANYTHING TO YOU.

WHAT!?

WHAT!?

GOD! ARE YOU STILL CALLING HER ASAHINA?

WHAT!?

AH...YEAH...IT JUST DOESN'T SOUND RIGHT WHEN I CALL HER BY HER FIRST NAME.

SO, I'VE JUST BEEN STICKING WITH ASAHINA.

UH-HUH...

OH...ASAHINA SEEMS LIKE SHE'S WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING AND I THOUGHT SHE MIGHT HAVE SAID SOMETHING TO YOU.

UH...? WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT.

UH-HUH... RIGHT... OKAY THEN....

AH... YOU THINK SO...?

OH, DON'T WORRY. WE ALL HAVE DAYS LIKE THAT. I'M SURE IT'S NOTHING.

HUH...?

.....?

ZZZ

CLOP

CLOP

AAAAHHH!! I'M SORRY!!

WHAT THE HELL? I TOLD YOU TO COME OVER IN THIRTY SECONDS!!

THWUMP

IT'S KIND OF LONE-SOME WALKING BACK HOME ALONE...

ESPE-CIALLY WHEN IT'S SO COLD.

ポツ DRIP

TSSSSWAAAA

HUH...?

YEAH.

WOW, I NEVER SEE YOU WALKING HOME ALONE, MEGUMI-SAN.

SAOTOME-SAN HAD A PAPER DUE TODAY AND SHE DIDN'T FINISH IT, SO SHE HAD TO STAY AT SCHOOL.

AH... YAMATO-KUN.

ARE YOU ON YOUR WAY HOME?

BLDY

UH-HUH...

AND WE HAD TO CANCEL THE DAT-ING PARTY WE HAD PLANNED.

IZAKAYA 'KENBISHI'

I JUST DON'T WANT TO BE ALONE ANYMORE.
YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT... AUTUMN FEELS LIKE SUCH A LONELY SEASON.

WHY DON'T YOU GO FIND A BOY-FRIEND THEN?
.....

AH... HEY... SLOW DOWN...
GULP
.....

SORRY FOR DRAG-GING YOU HERE.
YOU'RE UNDER-AGE, SO NO BOOZE FOR YOU.
YEAH... I KNOW...
MAYBE YOU SHOULD CUT BACK A LITTLE, TOO, MEGUMI-SAN.

THUNK

THAT'S WHY I HAVE TO GO TO THESE STUPID DATING PARTIES!

I HAD ONE! HE DUMPED ME!!

UH-HUH...

I DON'T TRUST GUYS WHO TRY TO GET PHYSICAL TOO QUICK!!

AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I TOLD HIM!!

AH... SORRY...

WELL, THAT'S BECAUSE YOU TOLD HIM NOT TO, RIGHT?

CHOMP CHOMP もぐもぐ

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THAT!?

AND NOW HE'S GONE MONTHS WITHOUT EVEN MAKING A MOVE.

YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO DROWN YOUR SOR-ROWS...

COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU GUYS HAVE BEEN GOING OUT FOR A LITTLE OVER A MONTH, RIGHT?

HAVE YOU KISSED HER YET?

OOOOUCHHH!!

STAB

OF COURSE I DID!!

BUT I NEVER TOLD HIM TO IGNORE ME FOR MONTHS AND GO OUT WITH OTHER GIRLS.

WE HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING LIKE THAT SINCE WE STARTED GOING OUT.

N-NOT YET...

DOES SUZUKA-CHAN EVER ASK YOU FOR ADVICE? I BET SHE DOESN'T.

YOU'RE NOT MUCH OF A MAN, YAMATO-KUN.

...WELL, SAY WHAT YOU WANT, BUT...

HOW PATHETIC.

I MEAN, THAT'S NOT EVEN "INNO-CENT AND SWEET." IT'S JUST PLAIN SLOW!

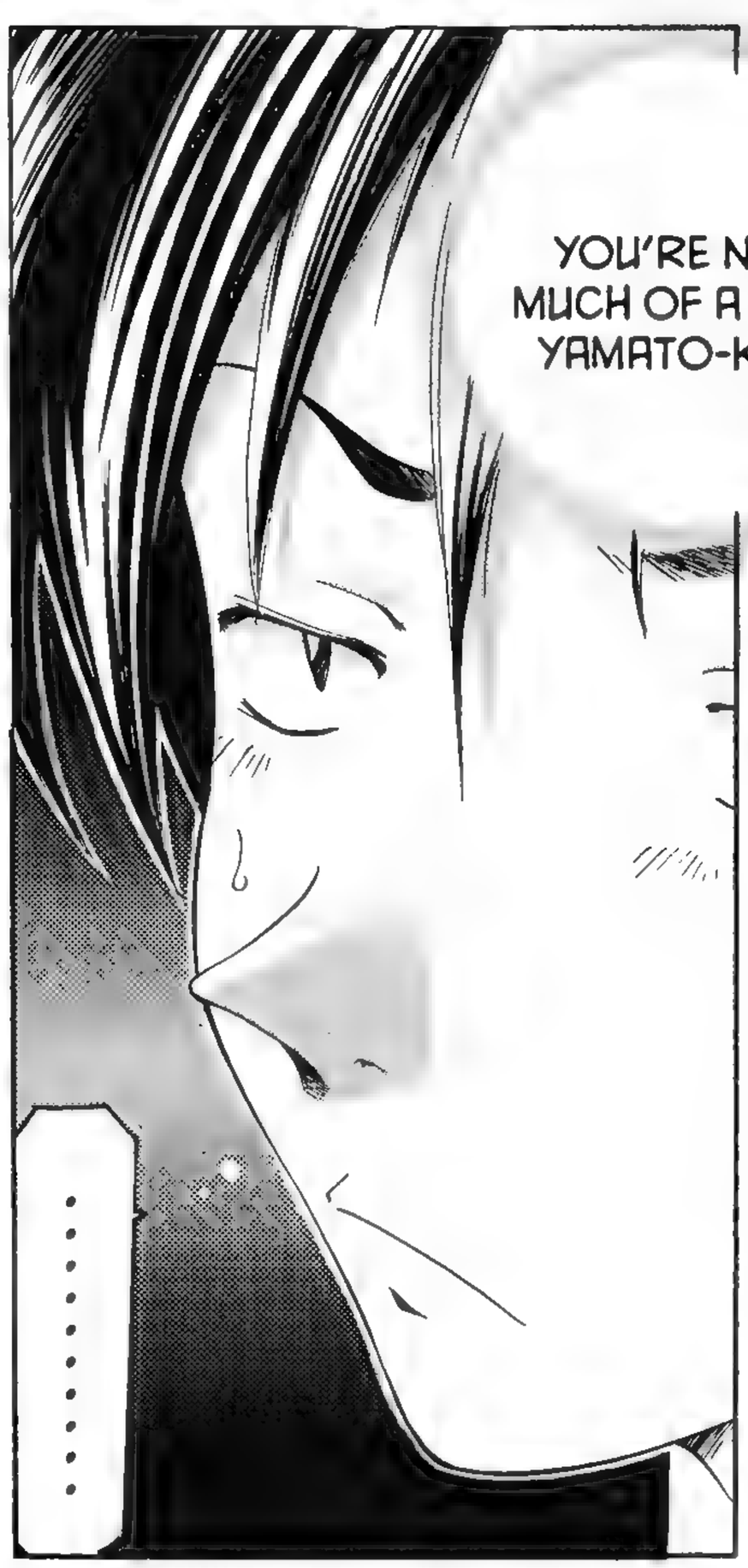
CAN I GET ANOTHER BEER, PLEASE!

UH...

ファッション

SHE'S RIGHT. ASAHINA'S NEVER ASKED ME FOR ADVICE.
CLOPPA
CLOPPA
I GUESS...

WHAT?
OF COURSE, IT'S BETTER THAT WAY.


YOU'RE NOT MUCH OF A MAN, YAMATO-KUN.
.....

ASA-HINA AND...
MIYA-MOTO SENPAI?

OKAY. I'LL DO THAT.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

WHAT...?

I'M SORRY TO BUG YOU ABOUT THIS. THANKS FOR THE ADVICE, AND THANKS FOR WALKING ME BACK HOME.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. GOOD LUCK, ASAHINA.

THERE'S NOTH-ING TO WORRY ABOUT.

DOES SUZUKA-CHAN EVER ASK YOU FOR ADVICE? I BET SHE DOESN'T.

WHAT...

COME ON. THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU.

H-HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN STANDING HERE!?

WHY DOES THAT MATTER?

!?

YAMATO-KUN!

WHAT WERE YOU GUYS TALKING ABOUT?

NO...

.....

WERE YOU...

OH...

...LIS-TENING TO US...?

W-WHAT...?

SO WHAT? I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH...?

T-THAT'S NOT...

...HOW IT IS...

YOU CAN TALK TO MIYA-MOTO-SENPAI BUT...

...NOT ME?

THEN WHAT'S THE DEAL?

IS THERE SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN'T TELL ME ABOUT?

.....

I WAS WORRIED THAT...

...YOU MIGHT BE DISAPPOINTED IF I TOLD YOU ABOUT IT.

I...

I WAS CHOSEN AS A "POWER ATHLETE," AND THEY ASKED ME TO GO TO THIS COLLEGE TRAINING CAMP THING.

WHAT...?

YOU SHOULD DO IT.

OF COURSE, YOU HAVE TO GO!

YEAH... BUT...

WHY WOULD I BE DISAPPOINTED?

'CAUSE...

YEAH...

THE CAMP STARTS RIGHT WHEN WE GO ON WINTER BREAK.

IT'S THREE DAYS STARTING ON DECEMBER 22.

W-
WELL, IT
STARTS
ON THE
22ND...

OF
DECEM-
BER!!

SO
WHAT?

SO, WHAT'S
THE BIG
DEAL?
YOU'LL STILL
HAVE PLENTY
OF TIME TO
ENJOY YOUR
VACATION.

BUT IT'S
ONLY
THREE
DAYS OUT
OF THE
WHOLE
BREAK,
RIGHT?

.....

THAT'S
A
HUGE
STEP
FOR
YOU.

I DEFI-
NITELY
THINK YOU
SHOULD
GO.

IT'S A
GREAT
OPPOR-
TUNITY.

WHAT!? W-WHY ARE YOU MAD, ASAHINA!?

ASAHI BATHS

FINE! I WILL GO!

IDIOT!!

カン CLOP

カン CLOP

カン CLOP

FORGET IT!

E-EXCUSE ME, ARE YOU OKAY?

AND ONE MORE THING. MEN WHO DON'T TAKE CHRISTMAS AND ANNIVERSARIES SERIOUSLY ARE TOTAL ASSHOLES.

ASS-HOLES!!

CLUNK

. . . . . .

DID I SAY SOMETHING WEIRD?

SUZUKA

FINE! I WILL GO!

SIGH...

I DIDN'T MEAN TO MAKE HER MAD.

CLICK

I THOUGHT IT WAS PRETTY AMAZING THAT SHE WAS CHOSEN AS A "POWER ATHLETE."

MAYBE THE WAY I SAID IT DIDN'T SOUND SINCERE OR SOMETHING.

SUZUKA #82 Strength

WHOA. YOU SCARED ME!!

ガタッ

FWISH

WHAT?

NOTHING.

UH...

WHAT IS IT...?

I-I'M SORRY ABOUT YESTER-DAY.

WHAT?

I, I REALLY WANNA SUPPORT YOUR DECISION TO GO TO THE CAMP...

SO... IF I MADE YOU FEEL BAD...

.....

NEVER MIND.

WHAT...?

IT'S JUST MY OWN STUFF I HAVE TO DEAL WITH.

H-HEY, ASAHINA.

ARE YOU STILL MAD AT ME!?

NOT REALLY.

YEP, SHE'S MAD ALL RIGHT.

.....

IF YOU NEED TO TALK, I'M ALWAYS HERE FOR YOU.

NO...IT'S NOTHING...

WHAT'S UP, AKITSUKI. WHY THE LONG FACE?

EXCUSE ME? WANNA SAY THAT TO MY FACE?

WHY DON'T YOU JUST LEAVE HIM ALONE? EVER HEARD OF TACT?

YOU STILL HAVEN'T PUT THE MOVES ON SUZUKA-CHAN, HUH?

WHAT...?

WHAT...?

WHAT!? WHERE DID THAT COME FROM!!?

A-HA! YOU STILL HAVE A CRUSH ON YAMATO, DON'T YOU?

NO, WE DON'T! QUIT FILLING AKITSUKI'S HEAD WITH YOUR BULLSHIT!!

THWAP

YOU'VE GOTTA MAKE A MOVE FAST!

GIRLS ALWAYS WAIT FOR THE GUY TO MAKE HIS MOVE, YOU KNOW?

. . . . . .

AH... ASA-HINA! WANNA WALK HOME TOGETHER AFTER PRACTICE?

SORRY.

THERE'S SOME-THING I HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF.

CLOPPA カッツン

CLOPPA カッツン

……

……

AH... OKAY...

WELL, YOU'D BETTER APOLO-GIZE.

UH... I DON'T KNOW...

WHAT DID YOU DO THIS TIME?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO DO.

I ALREADY APOLO-GIZED.

ピンポーン

DING DONG

HUH...?

ASAHINA...!!!

AH...!!

CAN I COME IN?

N-NO, OF COURSE I DO.

...?

W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING STOPPING BY SO LATE?

WHY? YOU DON'T WANT ME HERE?

CAN'T YOU AT LEAST FIX ME A CUP OF TEA?

……

……SURE.

AH... UM...

チ〃 TIK TOK チ〃

TIK TOK チ〃

men's egg

12 2005 VOL.75

TOP 30 CHRISTMAS DATE SPOTS!/

ZOOM IN- OUR READER'S SHOW US THEIR STYLE

EVEN THOUGH WE'RE GOING OUT, I STILL HAVE NO IDEA WHAT SHE'S THINKING.

IF SHE'S TRYING TO GET BACK AT ME FOR WHATEVER I DID, SHE'S SURE BEING PASSIVE-AGGRESSIVE ABOUT IT.

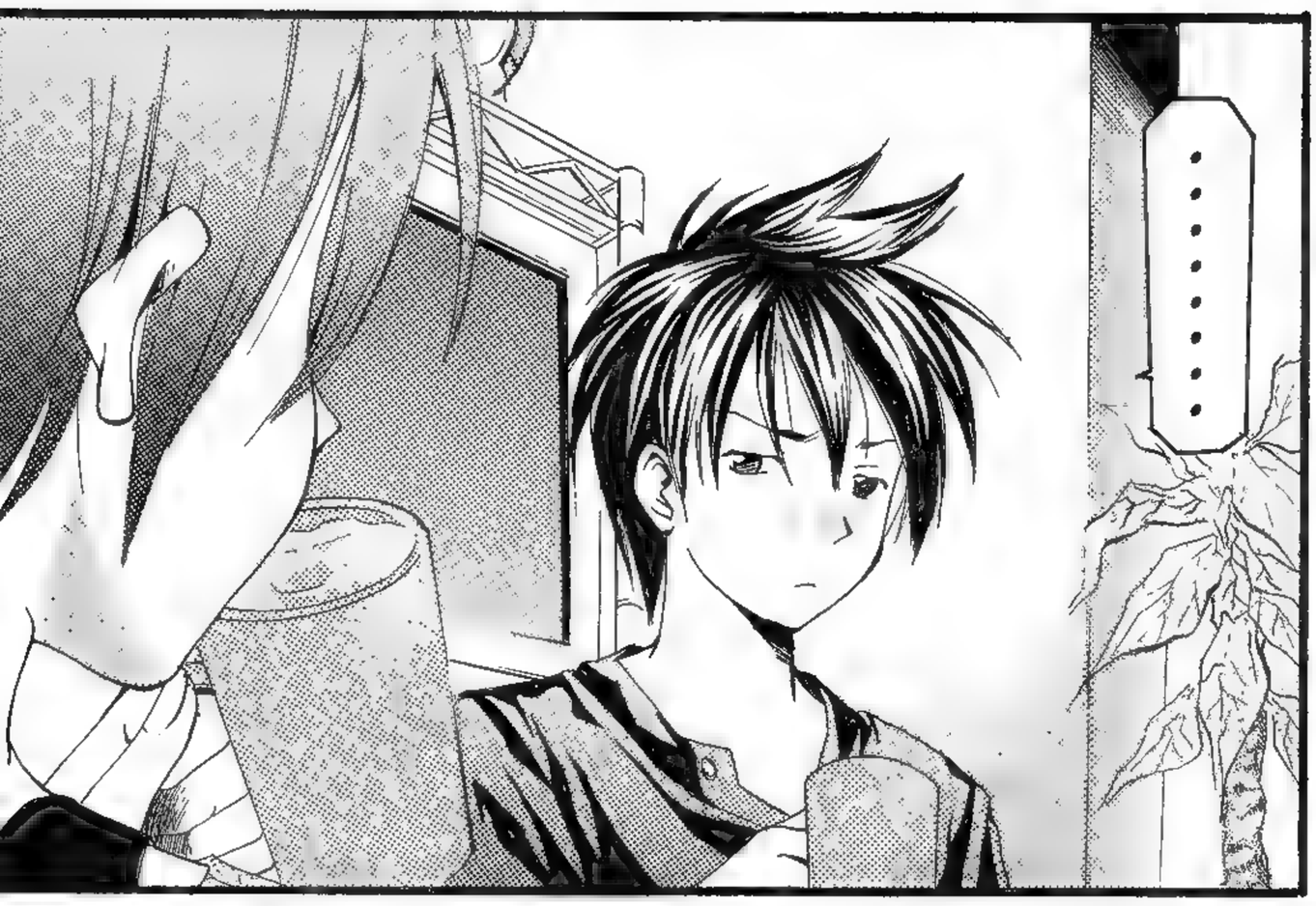
WHAT DOES SHE WANT? SHE SHOWS UP OUT OF THE BLUE AND WANTS ME TO MAKE HER TEA?

HUH...?
CLANK

AH...

OKAY, OKAY. I'M SORRY. HERE, IT'S READY!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? GO SIT DOWN.
GEEZ!! I JUST CAME TO SEE WHAT WAS TAKING YOU SO LONG.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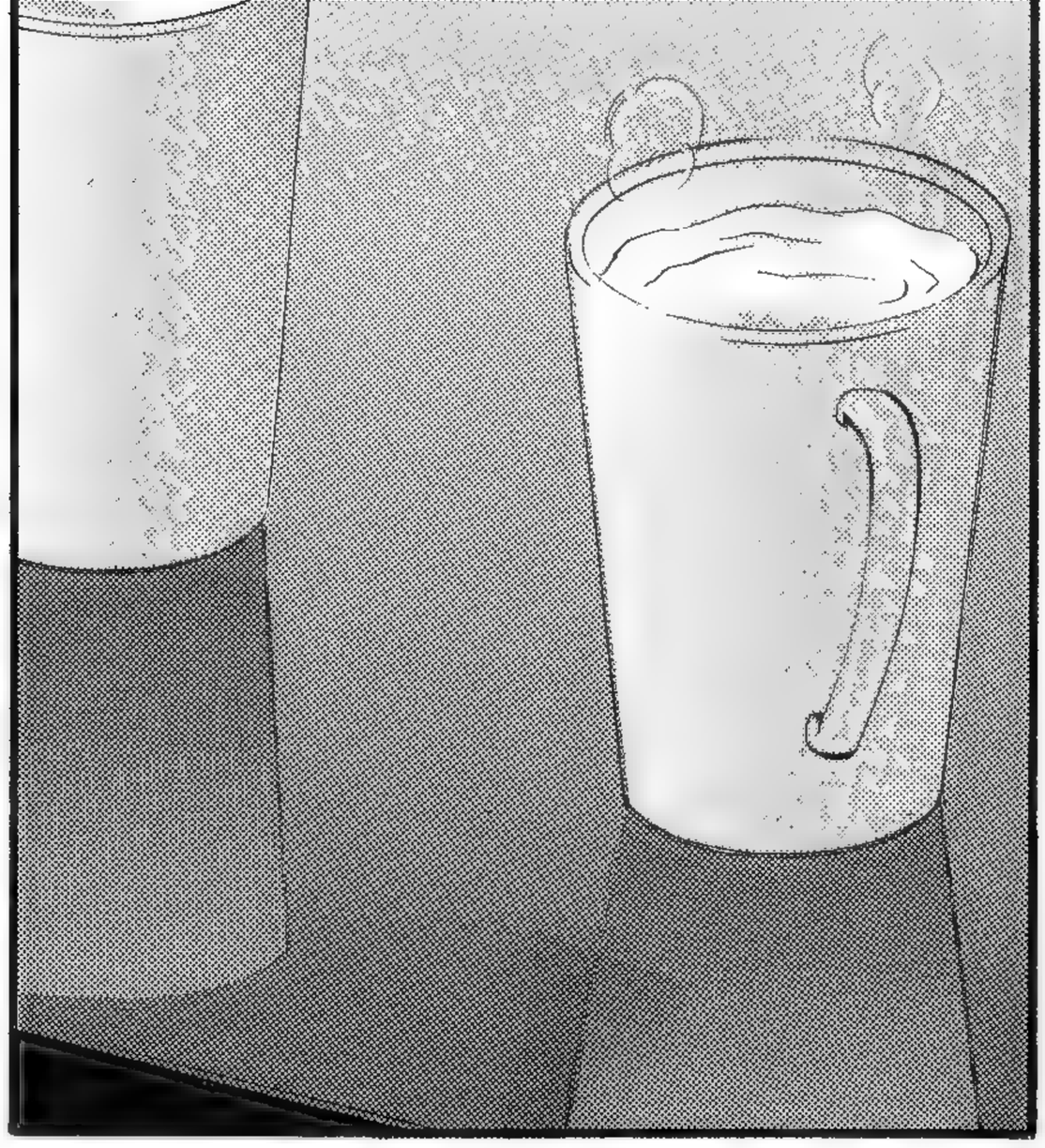
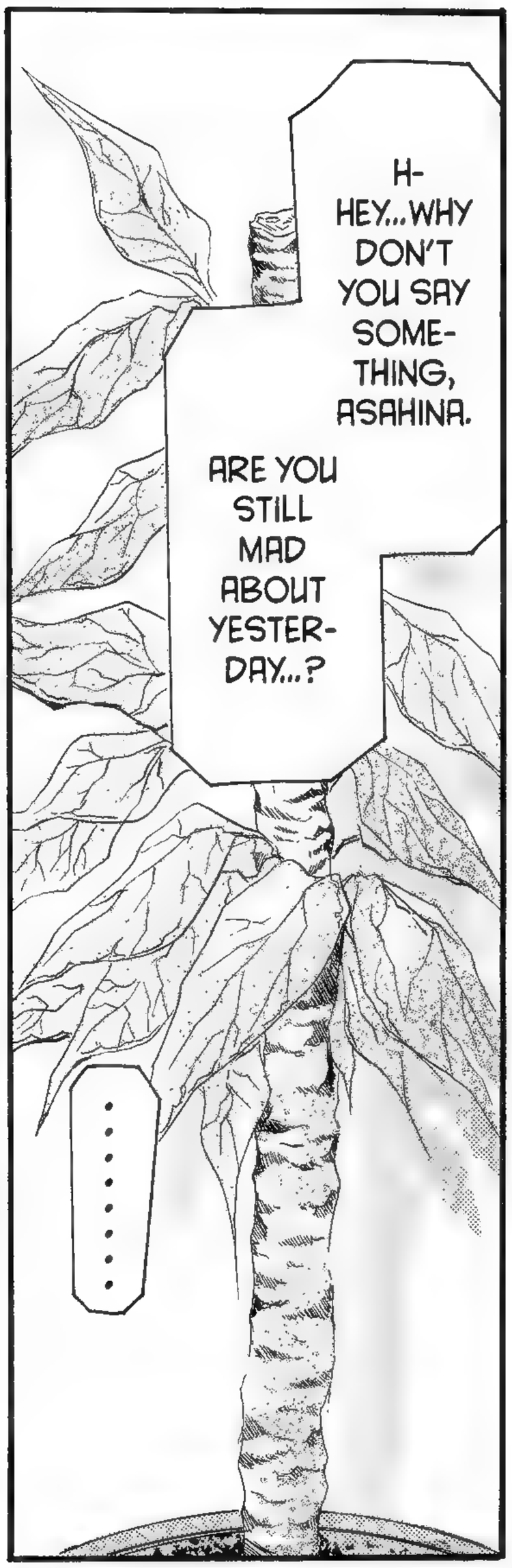
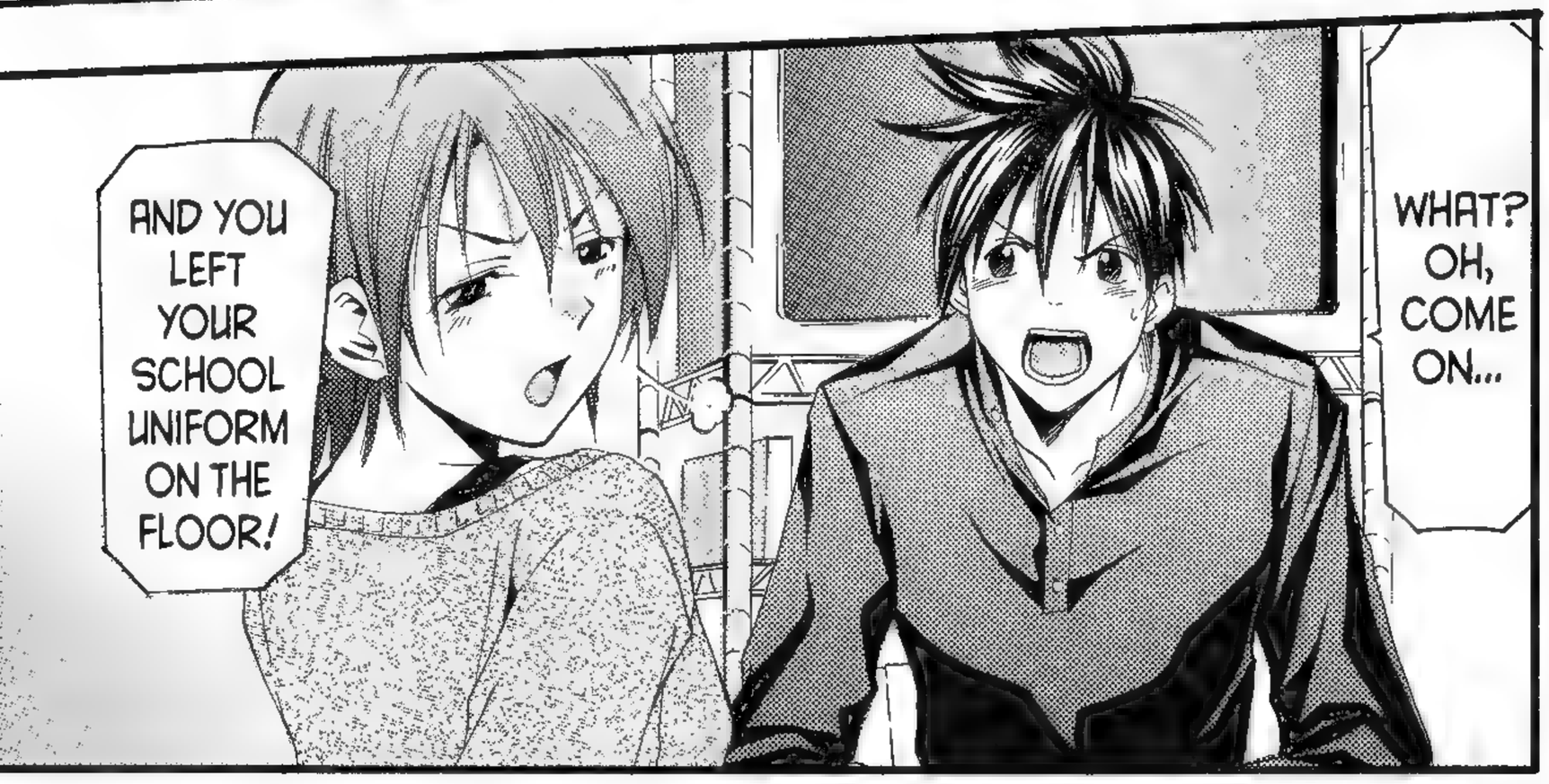


DID YOU BRING THE WATER TO A BOIL?
THE TEA'S LUKE-WARM.


H-HEY...WHY DON'T YOU SAY SOME-THING, ASAHINA.
ARE YOU STILL MAD ABOUT YESTER-DAY...?
. . . . . .


AND YOU LEFT YOUR SCHOOL UNIFORM ON THE FLOOR!
WHAT? OH, COME ON...

YEAH, WELL...I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT LATER, JUST LEAVE IT!
IT'LL GET ALL WRINKLED.

I GET FRUSTRATED JUST WATCHING YOU, YAMATO-KUN!!

YOU'RE SUCH A SLOB!

GRRR

WHAT...!?

SMASH

WHAT THE HELL IS UP WITH YOU?

IF YOU'RE UPSET ABOUT SOMETHING, WHY DON'T YOU JUST TELL ME ALREADY?

FORGET IT!

N-NO... I'M NOT UPSET!! I JUST...

WAIT!!

FWISH

I'LL...

...MAKE YOU ANOTHER CUP OF TEA.

FWUP

SO DRINK IT UP, AND JUST GO HOME.

PLINK

...DO YOU GET MAD SO EASILY...

WHY...

WHAT...

I-I JUST WANTED TO DO THIS...

UH...B-BECAUSE...

...YOU'RE ALL ANNOYED....

ドキン THUMP

ドキン THUMP

I...

AKITSUKI

AH... WAIT A...

CLICK

カリッ

B-BYE!!

SLAM

W-WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT...

GIRLS ALWAYS WAIT FOR THE GUY TO MAKE HIS MOVE, YOU KNOW?

NOT HER...

NO...

WHAT THE HELL?

I SURE WASN'T EXPECTING THAT...!

I-I JUST WANTED TO DO THIS...

BUT, WHY DIDN'T SHE SAY SOME-THING?

SHE'S SO SHY!!

ASAHIYU BATHS

THUMPA

THUMPA

NOW IT ALL MAKES SENSE!!

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE SECRETLY KNITTING A SWEATER FOR A GUY WHO IS SO CLUELESS THAT HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW IT'S ALMOST CHRISTMAS.

I GUESS YOU'RE MORE GIRLY THAN I THOUGHT... TRYING TO PLEASE YOUR MAN LIKE THAT.

OKAY.

ALL RIGHT. I'LL TRY THAT.

HE MAY BE CLUELESS, BUT HE'S TRYING TO BE THERE FOR ME... IN HIS OWN WAY.

N-NO! IT'S JUST A THANK-YOU GIFT!

TODAY I WENT OUT AND BOUGHT EVERYTHING YOU TOLD ME TO.

WAHH!!
WOO HOO!!
ドス
THUMPA
ドス
THUMPA
ドス
Y-YEAH...
WHAT...?
SO DID YOU MANAGE TO FIGURE OUT WHAT SIZE YAMATO-KUN WEARS?
I DIDN'T GET HIS EXACT SIZE OFF HIS UNIFORM.
BUT...I KIND OF EYEBALLED IT, SO IT SHOULD BE FINE.
ARE YOU SURE? YOU ONLY HAVE A MONTH UNTIL CHRISTMAS.
I-I DON'T KNOW. IT MUST BE GORO-CHAN.
YAMATO-KUN! SHUT UP!!
WOO-HOO!!
THUMPA
ドン
THUMPA
ドン
THUMPA
ドン
HEY, WHAT'S THAT WEIRD NOISE?
ASAHIYU BATHS

BUBBLE 7"

7"

BUBBLE 7"

. . . . . .

SHIT. WHY THE HELL SHOULD I HAVE TO DO THIS.

THIS ISN'T A FREAKIN' BAR.

HEY, CHEF. IS MY SAKE READY YET? THIS BOTTLE'S EMPTY!

COMING, JUST WAIT A SEC.

IF YOU DON'T HURRY, I'M GONNA SEND THAT LITTLE MOVIE I TOOK OF YOU TO SUZUKA-CHAN'S CELL PHONE.

WAAHH!! NO, WAIT!!

#83 Treasured

PHEW!!

THUNK

I NEVER SHOULD HAVE TOLD HIM THAT I HAD A NEIGHBOR WHO LOVES SAKE.

I SHOULD WRITE YOUR DAD A THANK-YOU NOTE.

THIS SAKE FROM YOUR HOME-TOWN IS PRETTY GOOD.

NOTHING WARMS YOU UP LIKE HOT SAKE ON A WINTER'S NIGHT.

AHHH

I'M SORRY FOR ALWAYS COMING OVER AND BUGGING YOU, YAMATO-KUN.

ぼく

GRIN

ぼく

WHAT...?

OH, NO... IT'S ALL RIGHT...

DRIED SQUID

THE GUY THAT I TOLD YOU ABOUT THE OTHER DAY SAID HE WANTS TO MAKE UP.

HE SAID WE COULD SPEND CHRIST-MAS TO-GETHER.

UH, WELL...

YEAH, HE'S RIGHT.

IS SOME-THING WRONG?

WHAT'S UP WITH YOU TODAY?

YOU'VE BEEN THROW-ING 'EM BACK, BUT YOU'RE STILL QUIET.

OH YEAH. IT'S ALMOST CHRISTMAS-TIME.

OH, THAT'S GOOD.

I GET IT...YOU'RE HAPPY TODAY! THAT'S WHY YOU'RE NOT GOING BALLIS-TIC LIKE YOU USUALLY DO.

CHRIST-MAS, HUH...

IS IT REALLY THAT BIG A DEAL? EVERYONE GOES TO THE SAME STUPID SHOPS, AND BUYS THE SAME STUPID PRESENTS... WHO NEEDS IT?

I'LL GO OUT WITH THE GUY WHO GOT ME THE PRICIEST BIRTHDAY PRESENT.

A GOOD PRESENT IS THE ONLY PROOF OF A MAN'S LOVE.

I KNOW. HOW CAN GUYS SAY STUFF LIKE THAT?

WHAT!?

I HATE GUYS WHO TALK LIKE THAT.

OH MY GOD... DID YOU HEAR THAT?

WHAT...?

IT'S NOT THAT WE WANT EXPENSIVE STUFF.

ANNIVERSARIES AND HOLIDAYS ARE REALLY IMPORTANT FOR GIRLS!

THOSE ARE THE TIMES WHEN YOU REALLY WANNA BE WITH THE ONE YOU LOVE.

UH...

POOR SUZUKA. IT'D SUCK TO HAVE A BOYFRIEND LIKE YOU.

YEAH.

H-HOLD ON, ASAHINA ISN'T THE TYPE OF GIRL WHO NEEDS A BUNCH OF EXPENSIVE GIFTS.

.....

IF YOU DON'T PLAN ANYTHING FOR CHRISTMAS, YOU'RE BASICALLY SAYING "I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT YOU".

OH, COME ON, IT'S JUST ONE DAY A YEAR. EVERYBODY CELEBRATES IT.

IT'S MY OWN STUFF I HAVE TO DEAL WITH.

NEVER MIND...

I HAD NO IDEA...

OH...

...SHE WANTED TO BE WITH ME THAT MUCH.

SO THAT'S WHAT SHE MEANT.

AH...HEY, GUYS! WHAT ABOUT DECEMBER 25TH? IS THAT TOO LATE!?

ARE YOU STUPID? ONCE YOU HIT CHRISTMAS DAY, PEOPLE ARE TOO BUSY GETTING READY FOR NEW YEAR'S.

ASAHITU BATHS

SOMEHOW, I HAVE TO FIGURE OUT A WAY...

...TO SPEND CHRISTMAS EVE WITH ASAHINA!

THE TRAINING CAMP?

WHAT...?

WELL... I DON'T KNOW. I JUST WANNA TRY TRAINING IN A... UH...

...MORE COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT.

WHAT'S GOING ON? WHY ARE YOU SUDDENLY SO INTERESTED IN GOING?

YEAH... CAN'T I GO, TOO?

AH...

UH...BUT IF YOU DON'T THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA, THEN...

GLARE

?

HUH!?

FWUP

GREAT!

.....

I KIND OF DOUBTED YOU. I THOUGHT YOU WERE STILL JUST GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS.

I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE TAK-ING YOUR TRAINING SO SERIOUSLY.

SORRY, AKITSUKI! I FEEL BAD FOR UNDERES-TIMATING YOU.

IT'S NOT GONNA HAPPEN.

BESIDES, IT DOESN'T REALLY WORK LIKE THAT, THEY HAVE TO INVITE YOU. SO...

WELL, IT'S A LITTLE LATE TO ASK THEM NOW.

2-B

AH... SO... WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE CAMP...?

OH... RIGHT... UH.

BUT DON'T YOU WORRY!

WHAT...

AH... AKIT-SUKI!!

FWOOSH

ACTUALLY, I THINK I'LL HEAD HOME FOR BREAK AND DO SOME HIGH ALTITUDE TRAINING.

THUNK

I'LL COME UP WITH A TRAINING REGIMEN THAT'S EVEN MORE RIGOROUS THAN THE CAMP'S. WE CAN TRAIN TOGETHER, JUST THE TWO OF US.

...JUST TELL ME. I'LL TRAIN WITH YOU ANY-TIME.

IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND...

N-NO! THAT'S OKAY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT!!

WHY THE HELL WOULD I WANNA SPEND CHRISTMAS EVE TRAINING WITH ANOTHER DUDE?

GIVE ME A BREAK.

I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO GO VISIT HER ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

SHIT, WHAT AM I GONNA DO.

20:47 LEAVES *TATEYAMA*
↓ (JR UCHIBO LINE, 107 MIN.)
22:34 ARRIVES 'CHIBA'
(TRANSIT TIME 8 MIN.)
22:42 LEAVES 'CHIBA'
↓ (JR YOKOSUKA/SOBU LINE, RAPID TRAIN)

THE LAST TRAIN FROM TATEYAMA LEAVES...

...AT 8:47 P.M.

SHE SAID THAT THE TRAINING CAMP WAS IN TATEYAMA...

CLICK
CLICK

YAMATO-KUN!!

FWOOSH

A"

PLAP

I DON'T KNOW IF I COULD EVEN MAKE IT, AND IT'LL DEPEND ON WHAT TIME SHE FINISHES PRACTICE.

IF I'M NOT CAREFUL I COULD END UP MISSING THE LAST TRAIN HOME.

OH, UH...

IT'S OKAY. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

I WAS TALK-ING TO COACH ABOUT THE TRAINING CAMP.

SORRY I'M LATE.

LET'S GO HOME.

YEAH, OKAY...

MY SCHEDULE FOR THE CAMP?

I...WAS JUST CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT YOU GUYS'LL BE DOING.

WHY DO YOU WANNA KNOW?

BUT I GUESS I CAN STILL SEE HER FOR A LITTLE BIT.

SIX O'CLOCK... THAT'LL MAKE IT PRETTY HARD.

WELL...I DON'T REALLY KNOW ALL THE DETAILS YET.

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE PRACTICE STARTS AT NINE IN THE MORNING AND GOES TILL SIX IN THE EVE-NING.

HEY...

.....

WHAT!?

WHY DID YOU WANNA GO TO THE TRAINING CAMP?

UH...

WELL...

I THOUGHT I SHOULD PICK UP THE PACE WITH MY TRAINING A LITTLE.

STEP !!

WELL, IT'S JUST THAT...

MIYAMOTO-SENPAI TOLD ME...

...YOU WERE ASKING ABOUT IT.

WELL...

OH...

...ACTUALLY, THAT'S BULLSHIT. THE TRUTH IS, I JUST WANTED TO SPEND...

...CHRIST-MAS EVE WITH YOU.

REALLY...?

BUT YOU NEVER MENTIONED ANYTHING ABOUT IT BEFORE.

I KNOW...I'M KIND OF CLUELESS ABOUT THIS KIND OF STUFF.

BUT I KNOW I DISAP-POINTED YOU WHEN I TOLD YOU THAT YOU SHOULD GO TO THE CAMP...

ANYWAY, I THOUGHT MAYBE IF I WENT, TOO, I COULD AT LEAST SEE YOU ON CHRISTMAS EVE...

...EVEN IF IT WAS JUST FOR A LITTLE BIT.

AH...

CLOPPA

.....

CLOPPA

I DON'T WANNA GET IN YOUR WAY OR ANYTHING...

I'M SORRY...

I'M SORRY...

.....

WELL...I DON'T REALLY KNOW MY SCHEDULE FOR THE 24TH AND IT'S KIND OF LATE TO PLAN SOME-THING NOW.

...ALL RIGHT

B-BUT...

...WE COULD JUST CELEBRATE IT ON THE 21ST...

WELL...

R-REALLY!? YOU'D BE OKAY WITH THAT!!?

WHAT?

...NOT DOING ANYTHING.

IT BEATS...

OKAY, COOL!! THIS TIME I'LL REALLY PLAN THINGS OUT!

A-ALL RIGHT!!

COME ON, LET'S GO HOME!

I DON'T WANT YOU GETTING SICK ON OUR BIG DAY.

SQUEEZE

ASAHINA

HUH? IT SNOWS IN HIRO-SHIMA?

I WON'T GET SICK. I GREW UP IN SNOW COUNTRY, REMEMBER!

I'M GLAD I SAID SOMETHING.

YEAH, IT SNOWS LIKE CRAZY WHERE I LIVE.

YUP.

REALLY, I DIDN'T KNOW THAT.

IF THEY CAN MAKE A GIRL THIS HAPPY

...I GUESS HOLIDAYS AREN'T SO BAD AFTER ALL.

IT GOES THROUGH HERE AND THEN...WHAT THE HELL? IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO LOOK LIKE THAT...

WAIT... THIS CAN'T BE RIGHT.

TANGLED

グ ち ゃ

I HAVE LESS THAN TWO WEEKS TO FINISH IT!

21

I DON'T KNOW IF IT'LL BE DONE ON TIME.

CHRISTMAS WITH YAMATO-KUN

GOTTA FINISH!!

NO! I CAN'T GIVE UP!

SUZUKA

SUZUKA

#84 Plans

WHAT? NO WAY, DUDE!

DONG

DING

COME ON, JUST TELL ME.

YOU ALWAYS GIVE ME ADVICE.

I'M BUSY RIGHT NOW.

DON'T FOLLOW ME!

I'M SICK OF HEARING ABOUT YOUR STUPID PROBLEMS.

YOU WOULDN'T EVEN LISTEN TO MY ADVICE ANYWAY.

I INVITED HER OUT ON A DATE FOR CHRISTMAS...

BUT I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO TAKE HER.

DON'T LISTEN TO HIM. HE'S CHEAT-ING ON YOU!!

THAT'S A LIE.

HE'S JUST MAD BECAUSE HE'S NOT AS POPULAR AS I AM.

NO, NO. IT'S A GUY!

AH, SORRY, AYA-CHAN. THIS FRIEND OF MINE WON'T STOP FOLLOW-ING ME AROUND.

COME ON, MAN. DON'T SAY THAT.

I'LL FOLLOW YOUR ADVICE THIS TIME.

TRY THINK-ING FOR YOUR-SELF FOR ONCE IN YOUR LIFE!!

HE CARES MORE ABOUT SOME STUPID GIRL THAN HIS REAL FRIENDS.

SHIT...

HA HA. COME ON, I WOULDN'T DO THAT TO YOU, BABE.

SO I WAS THINKING, WE SHOULD JUST HANG OUT AT YOUR APARTMENT, AYA-CHAN. I MEAN, SINCE YOU'VE GOT YOUR OWN PLACE AND EVERYTHING... I CAN BRING YOU A CHRISTMAS CAKE.

OH, YEAH.... WELL... EVERY-WHERE'S SO CROWDED ON CHRIST-MAS EVE. IT'S JUST TOO MUCH, YOU KNOW...

WE'LL JUST CELEBRATE AT HOME! ASAHINA AND I BOTH HAVE OUR OWN APARTMENTS SO IT'S PERFECT!

OH YEAH... THAT'S IT!

SO COOK UP SOME-THING NICE FOR ME, ALL RIGHT?

LATER.

OKAY, BABE! I'LL GET YOU AN AMAZING CAKE.

HUH...?

SO...

FWAP

WHAT WERE YOU SAY-ING...?

ASAHIYU BATHS

THERE'S NO WAY I COULD AFFORD THAT!

SPECIAL CHIRSTMAS DINNER

OH MY GOD. CHRISTMAS DINNER- 8,000 YEN*!

-8,000 YEN (INCLUDING TAX)

TRIPLE TWENTY

http:// www.cafe de.co.jp/

03-5572-0209

*$80.00

HMM... SO LOOKS LIKE YOU BASICALLY TAKE HER OUT, HAVE A NICE DINNER AND GIVE HER A PRESENT...

PAWOOSH

PAWOOSH

BUT I'D BETTER GET HER SOMETHING NICE.

ASAHINA WOULDN'T GO FOR JUST STAYING HOME WILL BE WAY BETTER!! THAT KIND OF TYPICAL DATE.

ASAHINA WOULD BE PISSED IF I JUST GAVE HER A BAG OF CHOCOLATES LIKE DAD ALWAYS GETS FOR PEOPLE...

MAP INSIDE

PIA

DECEMBER-FEBRUARY-WINTER HOLIDAY!

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

WHOA! SHIT... IT'S OUT OF FUEL!!

BLEEP

BLEEP

POUND

POUND

HEY, YAMATO-KUN. THERE'S NO HOT WATER!

SHIT...I DON'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO MAKE PLANS.

DAISY

I NEED A RAISE, OTHER-WISE THIS JOB RE-ALLY ISN'T WORTH IT.

CLICK

HUH...?

YEAH, YEAH. I'VE GOT IT!!

BOOM

HURRY UP AND FIX IT! HOW AM I SUP-POSED TO TAKE A SHOWER?

BOOM

JUST A SECOND. LET ME JUST FINISH THIS...

SI-SURE...

I'M FIXING IT RIGHT NOW!!

BOOM

BOOM

HURRY IT UP AL-READY!

DON'T MAKE ME COME OVER THERE!!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT...?

CAN I HELP...?

NO, IT'S FINE. I'VE ALMOST GOT IT... SO WHAT'S UP?

YAMATO-KUN...

CAN I TALK TO YOU FOR A MIN-UTE...?

OH, REALLY? WHAT'S YOUR PLAN...?

WINTER '98

CHRISTMAS LIGHT NIGHTSPOTS.

IN SKIING AND SNOW BOARDING

AH, I'VE GOT PLANS ALREADY!

UH...

I THOUGHT WE COULD CEL-EBRATE RIGHT HERE AT HOME!!

EVERY-WHERE GETS TOTALLY CROWDED ON CHRIST-MAS EVE, SO...

I THOUGHT MAYBE WE COULD PLAN OUR CHRIST-MAS TO-GETHER.

I'LL GET A CHRISTMAS CAKE, SO WHY DON'T YOU MAKE DINNER, AND...

HUH? WELL NO, BUT...

OF COURSE I DON'T. SO WHAT, YOU JUST WANNA EAT HARDBOILED EGGS FOR DINNER?

AH... YOU DON'T LIKE THAT IDEA...?

DAISY

EFFORT? I MAKE PLENTY OF EF-FORT, I JUST CAN'T...

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE BUSY OR ANY-THING.

WHY DON'T YOU JUST TRY PUTTING A LITTLE EFFORT INTO IT AND MAKE SOME-THING ELSE?

IF YOU'RE JUST GONNA HALF-ASS EVERYTHING THEN THERE'S NO POINT IN CELEBRATING ANYWAY.

...FORGET IT.

YOU ARE SO FULL OF SHIT! YOU JUST DON'T WANT TO GO THROUGH THE TROUBLE OF FINDING A GOOD PLACE.

W-WAIT!! I'M NOT TRYING TO HALF-ASS ANYTHING...

THUD

!!

!!

NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE AT ALL!!

WHOA!?

THAT'S NOT WHAT I WAS DOING...

THWAP

WATCH IT!

H-HEY...

WHAT...?

L-LOOK...

I WASN'T JUST BEING LAZY, OKAY...

S-SORRY...

.....

...I JUST TOOK YOU OUT ON A TYPICAL DATE.

ゴ!! PAWOOSH

ゴ!! PAWOOSH

I THOUGHT YOU'D BE BORED IF...

TCH...

.....

UH...

?

A NOR-MAL DATE IS FINE, I MEAN....

IT'S OUR VERY FIRST CHRISTMAS.

I GET IT, SO WILL YOU LET ME GO NOW?

HEY...

UH... AH...

ドキン THUMP

ドキン THUMP

O-O-KAY... SORRY.

AH...

WAIT...

. . . . . .

YAMATO-KUN...

STOP IT!!

SMACK

WAAHH!!

AH...!

THUD

S-SORRY... I...DIDN'T MEAN TO HIT YOU THAT HARD.

. . . . . .

IF YOU HAD TO PUNCH ME LIKE THAT.

YOU MUST REALLY HATE ME...

NO, JUST LISTEN!!

I DON'T WANNA HEAR IT...IT'LL JUST MAKE ME FEEL WORSE...

N-NO! I ONLY SAID "STOP IT," BECAUSE...

IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T LIKE YOU, YAMATO-KUN...

. . . . . .

. . . . . .

WHAT...?

S-SO, JUST PLAN OUT A NORMAL DATE FOR US, OKAY?

FWOOSH

A-ASAHINA!!

DAIS

JUST NOT TODAY!!

I NEED YOU TO WAIT JUST A LITTLE LONGER.

SLAM

...TODAY...?

WINTER PIA

DECEMBER-
FEBRUARY-
WINTER HOLIDAY

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL!

J-JUST NOT...

SPLASH

AHHH! HOT! HOT! HOT!

TWICKA TWICKA

HMMM...

...JUST NOT TODAY?

DAISY

I GUESS THAT WHOLE EPISODE WASN'T REALLY A BIG DEAL AFTER ALL.

IF SHE REALLY MEANT THAT, THEN...

!!

SLAM

HUH...?

ONLY TEN MORE DAYS UNTIL CHRIST-MAS...

SMACK

YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE!

OUCH!!

MAN... WINTER BREAK JUST STARTED AND YOU AL-READY HAVE TO GO TO A MEETING ABOUT THE CAMP?

OKAY, I'M LEAVING.

OH, OKAY.

YEAH, BUT IT'S JUST A LITTLE MEET AND GREET KIND OF THING, SO I'LL BE DONE SOON.

SO, I'LL WAIT FOR YOU IN FRONT OF THE STA-TION AT FIVE.

LET'S GO OUT FOR DINNER.

SUZUKA

SUZUKA

#85 Yui

21

ALL RIGHT! THE BIG DAY IS FINALLY HERE.

I MADE DINNER RESERVATIONS, AND I BOUGHT HER A PRESENT... EVERYTHING IS PERFECT!!

I KNOW IT'LL MAKE ASAHINA REALLY HAPPY...

IT'S GONNA BE SO ROMANTIC...

JUST NOT TODAY!!

I NEED YOU TO WAIT JUST A LITTLE LONGER!?

WOO HOO!!

TODAY'S THE DAY!!

THUMPA

THUMPA

HEY, YAMATO-KUN. IF YOU'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING, WHY DON'T YOU GO CLEAN THE BATHS!

NOW, LET'S JUST BRIEFLY GO OVER THE SCHEDULE FOR THE TRAINING CAMP...

WELL...

TODAY I'VE INVITED ALL OF THE CHOSEN PARTICIPANTS TO GATHER HERE SO WE CAN GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER A BIT...

KENTI

WHA-...

...

AH...! SORRY!!

ARE YOU LISTENING, ASAHINA!?

WHAT'S HE DOING HERE...!!?

SHIT...!

CHATTER 7

CHATTER 7

I WOULDN'T HAVE EVEN DONE THIS IF I'D KNOWN HE WAS GONNA BE HERE.

IT'S ALMOST FIVE...

SHE'S LATE.

I'M REALLY SORRY. I HAD TO DO A LITTLE SHOPPING!

YOU'RE LATE.

TCH...

.....

!

SORRY!!

MAYBE...

I SHOULD CALL HER.

FALUMP...

CELL PHONES

HEY... YOU'RE LATE.

DID YOU JUST FINISH?

INCOMING CALL

ASAHINA

BUZZ

BUZZZ

HUH...?

YOU CAN'T MAKE IT... BUT I ALREADY MADE A RESERVA-TION!!

Y-YEAH. I KNOW, BUT...

WHAT...?

AH... IT LOOKS LIKE THE MEETING'S GOING TO TAKE A WHILE.

I DON'T THINK I CAN MAKE IT AT FIVE.

ARE YOU SERI-OUS?

I GUESS IT'S NOT JUST A MEET AND GREET. NOW THEY WANNA HAVE A MEETING ABOUT THE HIGH JUMP.

I WOULDN'T FEEL RIGHT GETTING UP AND LEAVING IN THE MIDDLE.

O-OKAY... I'LL TRY TO GET HOME AS SOON AS I CAN.

ALL RIGHT... I'LL CANCEL THE RESERVA-TION, AND JUST EAT SOMETHING ON MY OWN.

I'M RE-ALLY SORRY...

OKAY... SEE YA.

I'LL GET A CAKE ON THE WAY AND WAIT FOR YOU AT HOME.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

BLEEP

SHE HAS TO BE THERE... IT'S NOT HER FAULT...

BEEP BEEP

TOBU-TOJO LINE
NARIMASU STATION
NORTH EXIT

AH... HI. I HAVE A RESERVATION FOR SIX O'CLOCK UNDER THE NAME AKIT-SUKI.

11

SLUMP

7

SIGH...

YO, YAM-ATO!

HUH...?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? YOU LOOK DE-PRESSED. WHAT'S WRONG?

NOTHING...

HEY, WANNA GO GET SOME-THING TO EAT? WE'LL SPLIT THE BILL.

WHAT...?

ALL RIGHT! COME ON.

SURE, LET'S GO.

. . . . . .

WELL... IF I GO HOME ALL ALONE IT'LL JUST BE DE-PRESSING, SO...

HI!

WOW, IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME?

SO EVERY-BODY...

MEET YAMATO AKITSUKI. THIS IS HIS FIRST DATING PARTY!

SORRY BUT, COME ON, MAN... HELP A GUY OUT.

ONE OF THE GUYS COULDN'T MAKE IT!

. . . . . .

DA—

DATING PARTY...?

WAH...! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING!!

FWISH

NO FREAKIN' WAY! I'M GOING HOME!

YEAH...

THIS IS AWK-WARD...

HEY, HAT-TORI...

NO, THERE'S ONE MORE GIRL COM-ING. SHE'S LATE.

THERE ARE ENOUGH GUYS HERE WITHOUT ME!

UH...

S-SORRY. HE'S KIND OF SHY.

HE'S USUALLY MORE FUN, BUT...

CLICK

SORRY I'M LATE!!

I'M YUI AMAMI. NICE TO MEET YOU!

I'M SO SORRY...I WENT CLOTHES SHOPPING AND I LOST TRACK OF TIME.

I RAN ALL THE WAY HERE, AND I'M SO THIRSTY!

CAN I ORDER SOME JUICE?

AH... YEAH. I GUESS...

HMM... SEEMS LIKE KIND OF AN AIR-HEAD, BUT SHE'S CUTE.

SHE'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT.

THAT'S WHAT'S SO FUN ABOUT HER.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

SO.

I'M AKIT-SUKI...

YAMATO...

AH...

N-NO. I WAS GONNA...

HEY, QUIT STANDING AROUND. SIT DOWN!

YANK

NOW THAT YUI'S HERE THE MOOD'S FINALLY STARTING TO PICK UP, COME ON...HELP A GUY OUT.

COME ON, JUST SING SOME-THING. WHAT ABOUT THAT ONE SONG!?

OKAY, YAMATO-KUN. HOW 'BOUT SINGING SOME-THING FOR US?

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOR-ITE SONG?

W-WHAT!? NO WAY. FORGET IT.

SING! SING!

ズン DA DUM チャ

SAN-FRECCE!!

ズン DA DUM チャ

SAN-FRECCE

IS HE TRY-ING TO RUIN THE PARTY...?

YOUR SPAR-KLING EYES!!

HEY, WHAT ABOUT THE HI-ROSHIMA CARP SONG?

IT'S SAN-FRECCE HIROSHIMA'S THEME SONG...IT'S CALLED "RO-MANTIC HAT TRICK."

WHAT...?

HA HA HA, OH MY GOD. WHAT IS THAT SONG!!?

YAMATO-KUN YOU'RE SO FUNNY! SING SOME-THING ELSE FOR US.

I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYBODY SING THAT SONG BEFORE.

ケラ ケラ TEE HEE

OWWW, MY STOM-ACH!

THEY ACTU-ALLY LIKED IT!

HUH...

I WANT TO HEAR YAMATO-KUN SING IT!

WHAT!?

NO WAY, THEY HAVE A THEME SONG, TOO!?

HEY!! MAYBE I'LL SING THE HIROSHIMA CARP THEME SONG!!

WHAT!? THAT'S MY SONG, YASU-NOBU!!

OKAY?

!!

CARP, CARP, CARP, HIRO-SHIMA!!

THIS CHICK'S...

...KINDA WEIRD...

HEY! WATCH IT, YAM-ATO!!

BLEEP

BUZZ

YOU SUCK!! GIVE ME THE MIC!

HMMPH...

I GOT OUT EARLY...

...BUT I CAN'T EVEN GET THROUGH TO YAMATO-KUN'S CELL.

SWAP

Buona Vy ブォーナ・ビィー

STEP

ボギー室 4F

.....!

3F

THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

I'M JUST WALKING HOME.

3F

HEY, WHY ARE YOU FOLLOW-ING ME?

WHAT...?

...WHAT-EVER.

.....

LET'S SEE. ANY CALLS FROM ASAHINA...? NOPE...

MAYBE SHE'S STILL AT THE MEET-ING...?

...OH SHIT...

I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE THAT MY CELL WASN'T GETTING RECEPTION IN THE KARAOKE PLACE.

CLICK CLICK

STEP

WHAT!?

YAMATO-KUN!

I GOT TOTALLY CARRIED AWAY.

!?

I GOT YA!!

THWUMP

WHAT WERE YOU DOING? TEXTING LITTLE LOVE MESSAGES TO YOUR GIRL-FRIEND?

TCH, NO...

HMMMM

.....

YOU NEVER CAME BACK FROM THE BATH-ROOM, SO I DECIDED TO COME FIND YOU.

SQUEEZE

SQUEEZE

AH... SORRY...

GET OFF OF ME!

THANK GOOD-NESS.

OH!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WHAT...?

Buona Vita
ブォーナ ビィータ

AH...I'D BETTER GET GOING.

COME ON. LET'S GO BACK INSIDE.

YOU'RE GONNA CATCH COLD IF YOU STAY OUT HERE.

CLOPPA

CLOPPA

C'MON, HURRY!

WOULD YOU JUST LET GO OF ME?

STOP IT...!!

.....!

SUZUKA #86 The Fight

YAMATO-KUN...

.....

WHAT...?

TSSSSWAAA

A-ASAHINA!?

WHAT ARE YOU...

...DOING HERE...?

うどん

……

!!

FWEESH

AH... THIS ISN'T WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE!!

AH... YAMATO-KUN!

W-WAIT A SECOND, ASAHINA!!

S-SORRY, BUT I'VE GOTTA GO!!

CLOP

WHAT!?

……

CLOPPA

CLOPPA

YASUNOBU TRICKED ME INTO GOING TO THIS PARTY!

HEY, IT'S REALLY NOT WHAT YOU THINK!

CLOP

CLOP

H-HEY, ARE YOU LISTEN-ING?

PLEASE SAY SOME-THING...

I RAN INTO HIM RIGHT AFTER I GOT OFF THE PHONE WITH YOU.

HE SAID WE SHOULD GO HAVE DINNER SO...

STEP

INSTEAD OF HANGING OUT WITH THEM FOR HOURS AND HOURS.

WELL, THEN, WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST GO HOME?

I TRIED TO GO HOME, BUT THEY KEPT STOPPING ME, SO...

WELL... UH...

THAT'S WHY I WENT OUT-SIDE... TO CALL YOU...

AND THEN...

YOU LIAR! YOU WERE HAVING SO MUCH FUN YOU DECIDED TO TURN OFF YOUR PHONE.

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MANY TIMES I CALLED YOU?

I-I DIDN'T TURN IT OFF...I DIDN'T HAVE ANY RECEP-TION, THAT'S ALL...

THEN...

WHAT...?

YEAH? WELL, I WASN'T HAVING SO MUCH FUN THAT I FORGOT ABOUT EV-ERYTHING ELSE.

Y-YOU KNOW HOW IT IS... I JUST FELT LIKE I COULDN'T LEAVE.

JUST LIKE YOU WERE SAYING ABOUT YOUR MEETING.

AND... WEREN'T YOU GONNA BUY A CAKE?

I-I DIDN'T FORGET...

I'M SURE...

...EVERY BAKERY IN TOWN IS CLOSED NOW...

AH...

UH...

YEAH...

IF THAT'S HOW YOU'RE GONNA BE, YOU SHOULDN'T EVEN BOTHER MAKING PROMISES.

YOU'RE ALWAYS LIKE THAT... ALL TALK AND NO AC-TION.

SORRY...

I FOR-GOT ABOUT THAT...

THE WHOLE REASON OUR DINNER DIDN'T WORK OUT WAS BE-CAUSE YOU COULDN'T MAKE IT!

W-WAIT A SECOND!

YEAH, BUT...

W-WELL...

I NEVER SAID THAT!!

SO YOU'RE SAYING THIS IS MY FAULT!?

ALL OF THIS IS MY FAULT?

YOU DIDN'T TELL ME HE WAS GONNA BE AT THE CAMP!!

...AND WHY WERE YOU WALKING HOME WITH ARIMA!?

WHOA! HOLD UP! IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS ENJOYING IT OR ANY-THING...

I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW...AND HE WASN'T WALKING HOME WITH ME...WE WERE JUST GOING IN THE SAME DIRECTION.

IT WASN'T LIKE HE WAS FLINGING HIS ARMS AROUND ME LIKE THAT GIRL YOU WERE WITH.

AH...!

WHATEVER!

WAIT!

ASAHINA!

CLOP

CLOP

CLOP

W-WAIT, ASAHINA!!

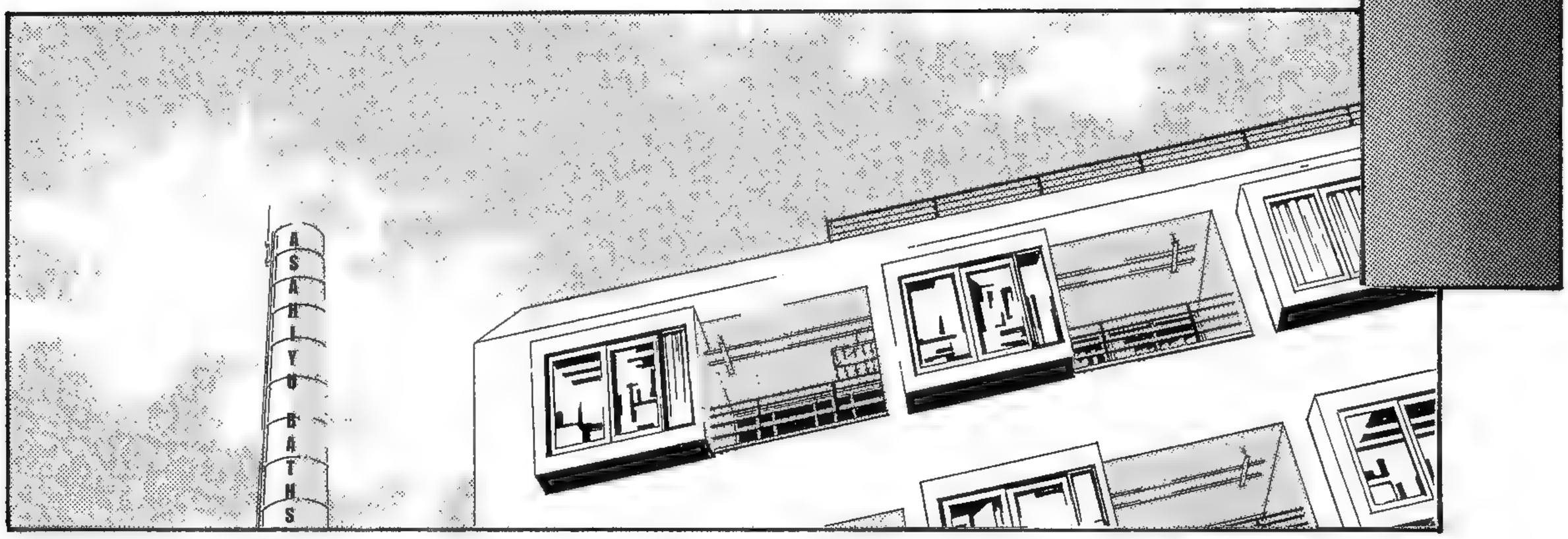
HEY...!

SLAM

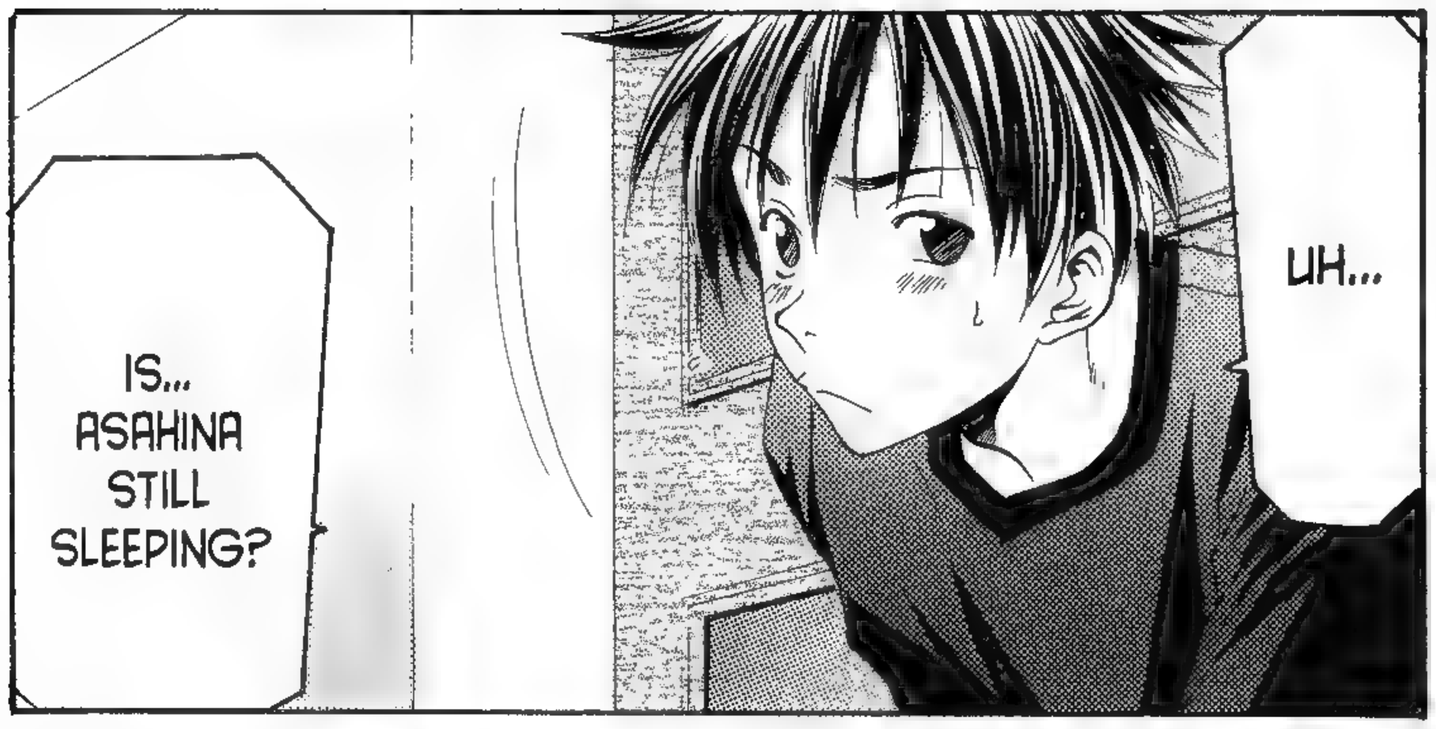
SO IT'S ALL MY FAULT...?

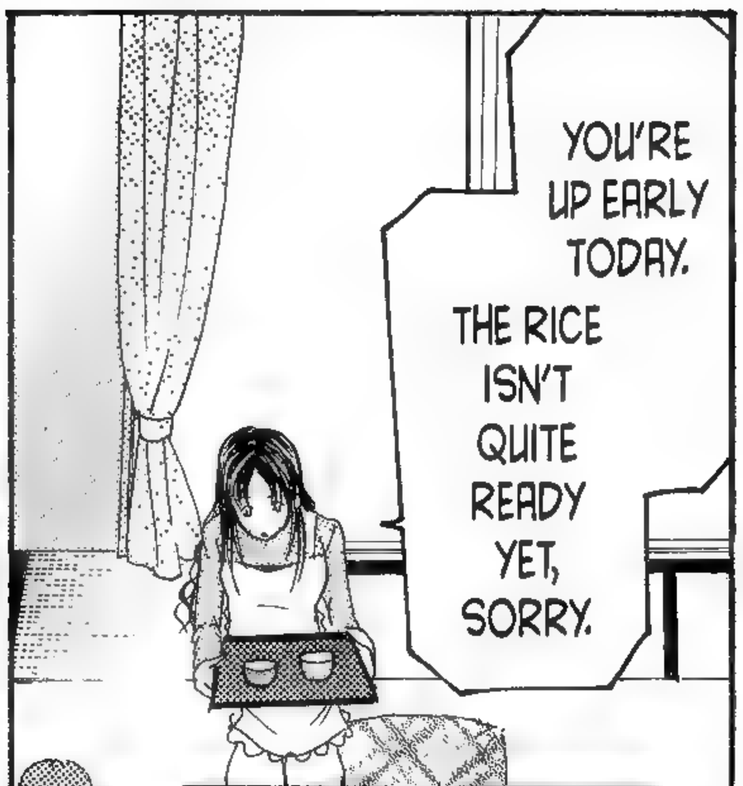
WHAT THE HELL?

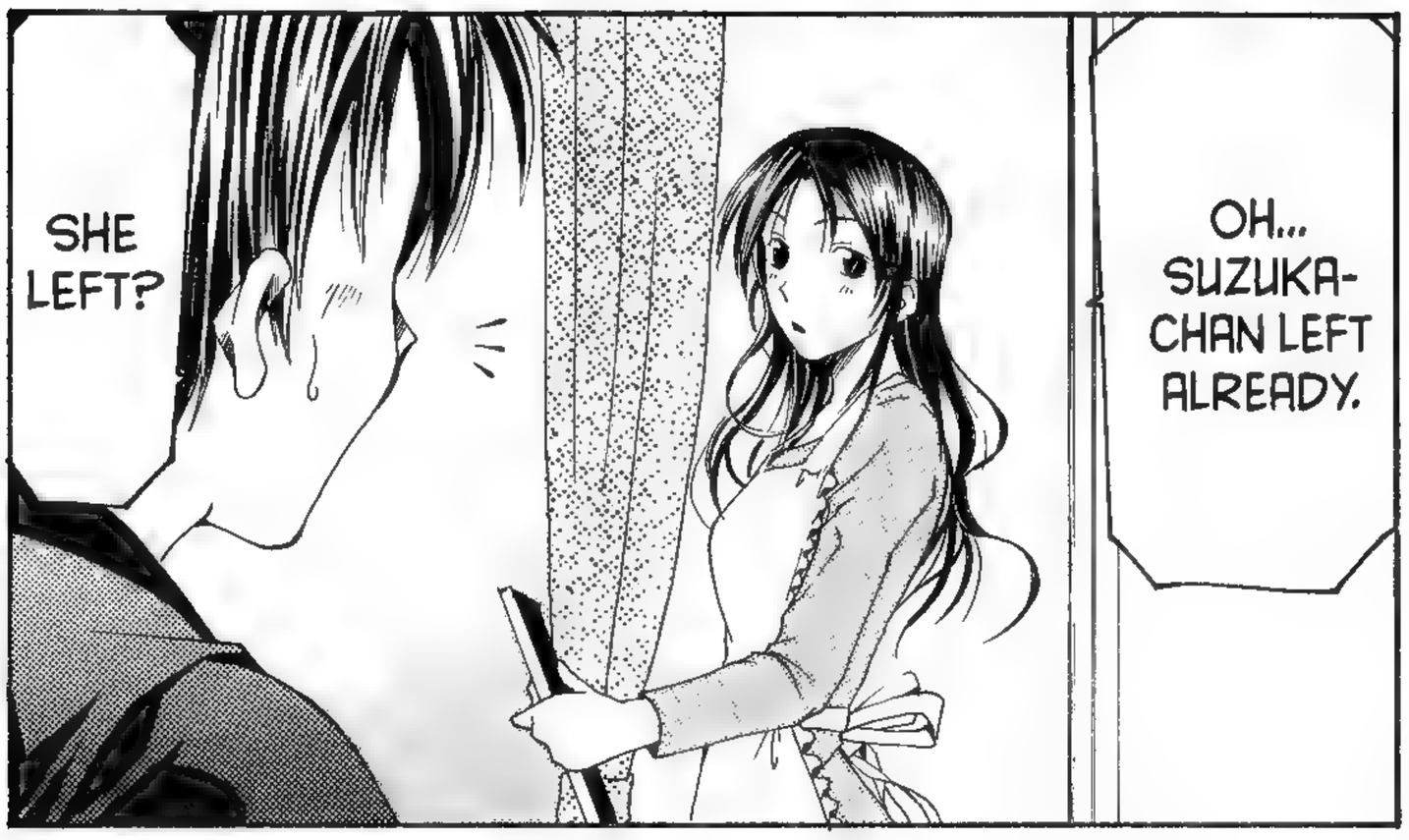
X mas TO JAMAICA KUN


ASAHIYU BATHS

GOOD MORN-ING...
SLIDE
ガラ


IS... ASAHINA STILL SLEEPING?
UH...


YOU'RE UP EARLY TODAY.
THE RICE ISN'T QUITE READY YET, SORRY.
AH... THAT'S OKAY...
MEOW


SHE LEFT?
OH... SUZUKA-CHAN LEFT ALREADY.

SHE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING TO YOU, YAMATO-KUN?

SHE SAID SHE DIDN'T HAVE TIME FOR BREAKFAST. SHE WAS GONNA GRAB SOMETHING ON THE WAY.

POOR THING. SHE HAS TO GET UP SO EARLY.

AH...

OKAY...

UH...

CRUNCH

WHAT...?

UH...DID SHE SAY ANY-THING...

...ABOUT ME?

CRUNCH

OKAY...

NO. I DON'T THINK SO.

WHAT'S HER PROBLEM? SHE COULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING TO ME BEFORE SHE LEFT.

301

NHK

YAMATO AKITSUKI

SWAP

AH...!

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MANY TIMES I CALLED YOU?

.....

FWAP

SIGH...

I SHOULD APOLOGIZE TO HER.

.....

CREAK

PAUSE

BUT SHE'S THE ONE WHO COULDN'T MAKE OUR DINNER!!

I KNOW IT WAS PARTLY MY FAULT...

N-NO...

AND ONCE SHE DOES... WELL THEN, I'LL...

GLANCE

SHE SHOULD APOLO-GIZE TO ME FIRST.

NO WAY. IF I APOL-OGIZE NOW, IT'S LIKE I'M ADMIT-TING THAT IT'S ALL MY FAULT!!

THAT'S HER!

BUZZ ブルルル

BUZZ ブルルル

RING RING

I HAVE TO SOUND LIKE I'M STILL KIND OF UPSET.

COUGH COUGH

AH, WAIT... I SHOULDN'T SOUND TOO HAPPY...

HI... THIS IS YUI...

HUH...?

CLICK

YEAH?

OH...I GOT IT FROM HATTORI-KUN...

Y-YUI-CHAN!? HOW DID YOU GET MY NUMBER...?

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT YOU HAD A GIRL-FRIEND...

I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT YESTER-DAY.

UM... DID YOU TWO MAKE UP...?

SO...

OH...WELL...I SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN HANGING OUT AT A DATING PARTY IN THE FIRST PLACE.

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, YUI-CHAN.

YEAH... WE'RE COOL.

AH...

OKAY...

H-HA HA... DON'T WORRY WE'RE FINE...

I WOULD'VE FELT SO BAD IF YOU GUYS BROKE UP BECAUSE OF ME.

THAT'S GOOD! I WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU.

GOOD! HEY, SINCE YOU HAD TO LEAVE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PARTY YESTERDAY, WE SHOULD GET TOGETHER AGAIN SOMETIME.

WHAT...?

AH...!! SORRY, I DON'T MEAN....UH, I MEAN...ALL OF US SHOULD GET TOGETHER AGAIN, YOU KNOW!!

AH... YEAH... ...ALL OF US.

THE NEXT TRAIN IS BOUND FOR AWAKA-MOGAWA

SWAP

HONCHIBA STATION

BEEP BEEP

BEEP BEEP

AH... ME...?

WHAT ABOUT YOU, MIHO-CHAN?

I'M NOT GIVING ANYBODY ANY-THING.

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR VAL-ENTINE'S DAY?

ピク"

SHOCK

SPACING OUT ボー"

YAMATO AKITSUKI (9TH GRADE)

HE WAS IN HIRO-SHIMA, AND LITTLE DID HE KNOW THAT...

FEBRUARY 12

SHIT. WHO THE HELL IS THIS YAMATO GUY!!

... HUN-DREDS OF MILES AWAY, A YOUNG BOY WAS CURSING HIS VERY NAME!

TSUYOSHI KUSAKABE (7TH GRADE)- HAS A CRUSH ON MIHO-CHAN

IT HAP-PENED JUST BEFORE YAMATO MOVED TO TOKYO.

I'M GOING TO MAKE HOME-MADE CHOCO-LATES FOR YAMATO-KUN!

MIHO

SUZUKA

SPECIAL BONUS MANGA

WHAT...?

YOU WANT ME TO TEACH YOU HOW TO GET CHICKS IN TWO DAYS!?

YASUNOBU HATTORI (9TH GRADE)

PLEASE!!

YES, SIR!!

I CAN'T LET THAT GUY GET IN MY WAY!!

SHUT UP, KID. JUST LEAVE ME ALONE...

DON'T BE STUPID. THAT'S TOTALLY IMPOS-SIBLE.

YAM-ATO...?

THAT STUPID YAMATO!

W-WAIT!! PLEASE, TEACH ME HOW TO BE LIKE YOU, HATTORI-SENPAI, PLEASE!!

I GET IT, SO...

HEY, COULD YOU KEEP IT DOWN, SENPAI!!?

THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE, MIHO-CHAN FROM ASA-HIYU BATHS, WANTS TO GIVE VALENTINE'S CHOCOLATE TO YAMATO, HUH?

I WAS SUPER POPULAR WITH THE LADIES WHEN I WAS A KID AND IT WAS ALL THANKS TO HIM.

WHEN WE USED TO HANG AT THE BATH HOUSE.

KNOW HIM? HE'S MY BEST FRIEND.

PLUP

WELL, YAMATO IS GONNA BE TOUGH TO BEAT...

MIHO-CHAN HAS ALWAYS LIKED YAMATO.

S-SO, HATTORI SENPAI OWES HIS POPULARITY TO THIS GUY!!?

WHOA!! N-NO WAY!

WHAT...? YOU MEAN YOU KNOW YAMATO!!?

YAMATO MUST BE SUPER HOT!

I-IF THAT'S TRUE...

TSUYOSHI-KUN'S IMAGE OF YAMATO

CHICKS LIKE...

...SWEET AND SENSITIVE GUYS.

SHIT!... THERE'S NO WAY I STAND A CHANCE AGAINST HIM...

SLUMP

I WOULDN'T SAY THAT

I WANT A BEAR LIKE HE HAS.

NO!

WOW, THANKS!!

OH, THANK YOU SO MUCH.

HERE YOU GO. YOU CAN HAVE MINE.

HUH...?

NO WAY!! YOU LOOK WAY TOO YOUNG TO BE HER MOTHER!!

R-REALLY? TEE HEE

ZEED

666

OH, NO! I'M HER MOTHER.

キャッシュ サービス

OUT SHOP-PING WITH YOUR SISTER?

キャッ KYA

キャッ KYA

HE'S AMAZ-ING...

...MUST BE EVEN SMOOTHER.

SO THIS YAMATO GUY...

SWEET AND...

...SENSI-TIVE...

Daioi

YOU'RE THE MOST SENSITIVE GUY I KNOW.

YOU'RE SO SWEET, YAMATO-KUN.

TSUYOSHI-KUN'S IMAGE OF YAMATO

AH... THERE SHE IS.

YOINK キョロ

YOINK キョロ

FUJIKAWA ALWAYS BUYS HER FOOD HERE.

7° SHAKE

7° SHAKE

UH... CAN'T QUITE REACH IT...

HERE YOU GO.

YOU SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL. YOU'RE AN ACCIDENT WAITING TO HAPPEN.

CURRY

カレー

UH... N-NOTHING... DOES IT MATTER?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

TSUYO-SHI-KUN...

BUT YOU ARE A LITTLE KID.

D-DON'T TALK TO ME LIKE I'M A LITTLE KID!!

YOU'D BETTER HURRY ON HOME OR YOUR MOM'LL BE WORRIED.

C'MON, JUST GIVE IT TO ME!!

LET GO!!

GIVE ME THAT!! I'LL CARRY IT FOR YOU!!

YANK

I SAID, GIVE IT TO ME!!

FWICK

QU-QUIT IT. I CAN CARRY IT MYSELF!

YOU STUPID JERK!!

GET AWAY FROM ME!!

WHAT THE HECK IS WRONG WITH YOU?

WAAHH!

CRASH

KYAA

WHY CAN'T I BE LIKE HATTORI-SENPAI...?

THUD

WHY...

NO WAY, ARE YOU SERI-OUS?

GIVE ME SOME OF YOUR MEAT...

LISTEN UP, TSUYOSHI...

I'LL BE SMOOTH!!

OKAY, MASTER!!

YOU CAN'T TRY TO FORCE SWEETNESS ON A CHICK.

YOU GOTTA BE SMOOTH, MAN..

WHAT...?

SCHLOP

大農牛乳 200ml

ARE YOU TRY-ING TO MAKE ME FAT OR SOME-THING!!?

WHAT? THERE'S NO WAY I CAN EAT ALL THIS!?

WHAT!?

SPECIAL SERVICE!

W-
WHAT...

.....

WHAT A PRICK.

EVER SINCE YESTERDAY TSUYOSHI-KUN IS BEING A TOTAL JERK TO ME!

WHAT'S WRONG, MIHO-CHAN?

I'LL NEVER BEAT YAMATO LIKE THIS...!!

THE MORE I TRY, THE MORE SHE HATES ME!!

DING

DONG

DING

I-B

DONG

I PROBABLY WON'T GET A DAMN THING...

TOMOR-ROW IS VALENTINE'S DAY...

...SHE'D GET ME SOMETHING...

I WAS HOPING...

SHE FORGOT HER BAG.

...HUH?

HIROSHIMA PREFECTURE, YAMATO... AKITSUKI.

.....

AH...

THERE'S SOME-THING IN HERE.

Y-YAMATO!?

THIS MUST BE THE CHOCO-LATE SHE'S SENDING HIM!!

I'M GOING TO MAKE HOMEMADE CHOCOLATES FOR YAMATO-KUN!

HIRO

A,

YAMAT

ITSUKI

I OUGHTA JUST THROW THIS AWAY...

SHIT...I SHOULDN'T HAVE LOOKED.

YAMATO AKITSU

AH...

BUT VALENTINE'S IS TOMOR-ROW. IF SHE DOESN'T SEND IT TODAY, IT WON'T GET THERE ON TIME...

HMMPH...

BUT THAT'S NOT MY PROB-LEM...

HE PROBABLY GETS MOUN-TAINS OF CHOC-OLATE FROM OTHER GIRLS ANYWAY.

WHOOSH

SLIDE

PANT

PANT

THERE IT IS...

WHAT THE-?

IT'S GONE!!

OH NO, IT'S ALREADY SIX O'CLOCK...

EVEN IF I SEND IT NOW, IT'LL NEVER GET THERE BY TOMOR-ROW.

WHAT'S THIS...?

.....?

DON'T WORRY...

DON'T WORRY, I SENT IT FOR YOU!!

I SENT IT FOR YOU...?

FLUP

CLOPPA
CLOPPA
DING
DONG
FEBRUARY 14TH
YO, TSUYO-SHI!
GRIN
GRIN
WHY THE LONG FACE?
DID YOU GET ANY CHOCO-LATE?
FROM ALL OF US AT THE HATTORI-SENPAI FAN CLUB
AH... HEY.
I'M NO YAMATO AKITSUKI.
NO... NOT A SINGLE PIECE...

YOU LOOK KIND OF LIKE YAMATO, SO DON'T WORRY, YOU'LL BE FINE..

LIGHTEN UP.

I KNOW I LOOK NOTHING LIKE HIM!!

WHATEVER, DON'T BOTHER TRYING TO CHEER ME UP.

HEY!

NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY...

DID YOU WRITE THIS?

DON'T WORRY, I SENT IT FOR YOU!!

I'LL NEVER GET ANY CHOCOLATE FROM HER!!

I-I DON'T NEED YOUR MONEY.

I CAN PAY FOR IT!!

SHIT!! WHY DID I SAY THAT--

BECAUSE NO ONE ELSE WRITES SO SLOPPY, TSUYOSHI-KUN.

DON'T WORRY, I SENT IT FOR YOU!!

AH... HOW'D YOU KNOW?

ABOUT 1,000 YEN*?

SO... HOW MUCH WAS IT?

*$10

YEAH, REALLY!!

REALLY...?

IT'S "GIRI-CHOCO"*... TO SHOW MY GRATI-TUDE.

*OBLIGATORY CHOCOLATE

WHAT...!?

AH...

WELL, HERE...

THUMP ドキ ドキ

THUMP ドキ ドキ

...

SEE YA.

FWOOSH

タ"ー

タ"ー

タ"ー

タ"ー

IT'S JUST GIRI CHOCOLATE, BUT STILL, IT'S FROM *HER!*

N-NO WAY!

ビク

WAAAHHHH

WOO HOO!!

I GOT CHOCOLATE!!

I DON'T CARE IF YOU DO GET MOUNTAINS OF CHOCOLATE FROM OTHER GIRLS, BECAUSE...

YOU JUST WATCH, YAMATO AKITSUKI!!

NEXT YEAR...

I'M GONNA GET REAL VALENTINE'S CHOCOLATE FROM MIHO FUJIKAWA!!

I'M SO UNPOPU-LAR.

AH... ALL I GOT IS ONE VALENTINE'S PRESENT AGAIN THIS YEAR. JUST MORE GIRI CHOCO-LATE FROM MIHO-CHAN.

THE END

HATTORI-KUN THE NINJA

ENTER HATTORI-KUN!

KABUTO COMICS

KOJI G. SEO

MIYAMOTO

I DON'T WANNA BE A JERK, BUT COULD YOU PLEASE LEAVE.

YEAH RIGHT, HATTORI-KUN. YOU KNOW I'M BUSY STUDY-ING FOR ENTRANCE EXAMS.

HEY, SOICHI. I'M BORED.

SHONEN MAGAZINE

LET'S GO PICK UP GIRLS.

ALL WORK AND NO PLAY MAKES JACK A DULL BOY.

LET'S GO OUT AND PLAY! LET'S GO OUT AND PLAY!

MATH

HE'S SO ANNOY-ING...

EVEN IF I LOCK THE DOOR, YOU JUST BREAK INTO MY ROOM.

EVER HEARD OF BREAK-ING AND ENTERING?

WHAT'S YOUR DEAL ANYWAY?

YOU JUST SHOW UP AT MY HOUSE ONE DAY AND MOVE RIGHT IN.

WELL, ALL YOU DO IS BUG ME....

PLUP

OH, SHUT UP. I'M JUST A NINJA WHO CAME HERE TO HELP OUT LOSERS LIKE YOU.

FWICK チャキ

I SAID SHUT UP!

YOU WANT ME TO SLICE YOU INTO A THOUSAND PIECES?

NOW WE'RE TALKING ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON!

WHERE DO YOU GO TO SCHOOL, ANYWAY?

YOUR PARENTS MUST BE WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU...

YOU SKIP SCHOOL EVERY DAY AND BREAK INTO PEOPLE'S HOUSES...

NOT INTER-ESTED.

11° SWAP

THERE'LL BE A TON OF CHICKS HERE IN NO TIME.

HEY, I KNOW! HOW 'BOUT IF I SHOW YOU MY SECRET NINJA TECH-NIQUE FOR ATTRACTING LADIES.

NO, NO. IT'S JUST A FIGURE OF SPEECH. IT'S BASICALLY A WAY OF WINNING BATTLES THROUGH SKILLED VERBAL DEBATE...

WHY THE HELL WOULD I WANNA KILL A THOUSAND PEOPLE?

WELL... I COULD TEACH YOU MY "1000 MEN WITH ONE STRIKE" TECHNIQUE.

H-HEY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING, SOICHI?

CLICK

JUST SHUT THE HELL UP ALREADY!! I CAN'T CON-CENTRATE!!

SWUP

MATH

HE MUST KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH GUYS LIKE THIS.

I KNOW AKITSUKI HAD A WEIRD FREE-LOADER AT HIS HOUSE.

ASAHIYU BATHS

ピンポーン DING DONG

ピンポーン DING DONG

!?

AKITSUKI

GYAAAA!!

HMM... GUESS HE'S NOT HOME...

ガチャ CLICK

ARE YOU OKAY!?

A-AKIT-SUKI!?

HEH HE HEH HEH

BWA HA HA HA

H-HELP ME!!

MEKI MEKI

SOICHI'S PERSPECTIVE

WHA-?

11°

SLAM

あああ

AAAHH!

SOICHI'S PERSPECTIVE

SHONEN MAGAZINE?

SHONEN MAGAZINE

INTERVIEW WITH ROBERTO CARLOS RAUL AND YOSHITO OKUBO!!

UH... WHAT'S WITH YOU?

YOU'RE CREEPIN' ME OUT.

YEAH. YOU HAVEN'T READ THIS WEEK'S EDITION YET HAVE YOU, HATTORI-KUN?

"HAJIME NO IPPO" IS GET-TING REALLY GOOD!!

THE GRASS ISN'T ALWAYS GREENER ON THE OTHER SIDE. IS THIS THE BIRTH OF NEW HERO(??)

UH, LOOK... I'M NOT REALLY INTO GUYS, SOICHI...

I FEEL REALLY LUCKY.

I'M JUST REALLY GLAD I ENDED UP WITH *YOU* STAYING IN MY HOUSE.

☆ THE END OF CHAPTER 1 ☆

Translation Notes

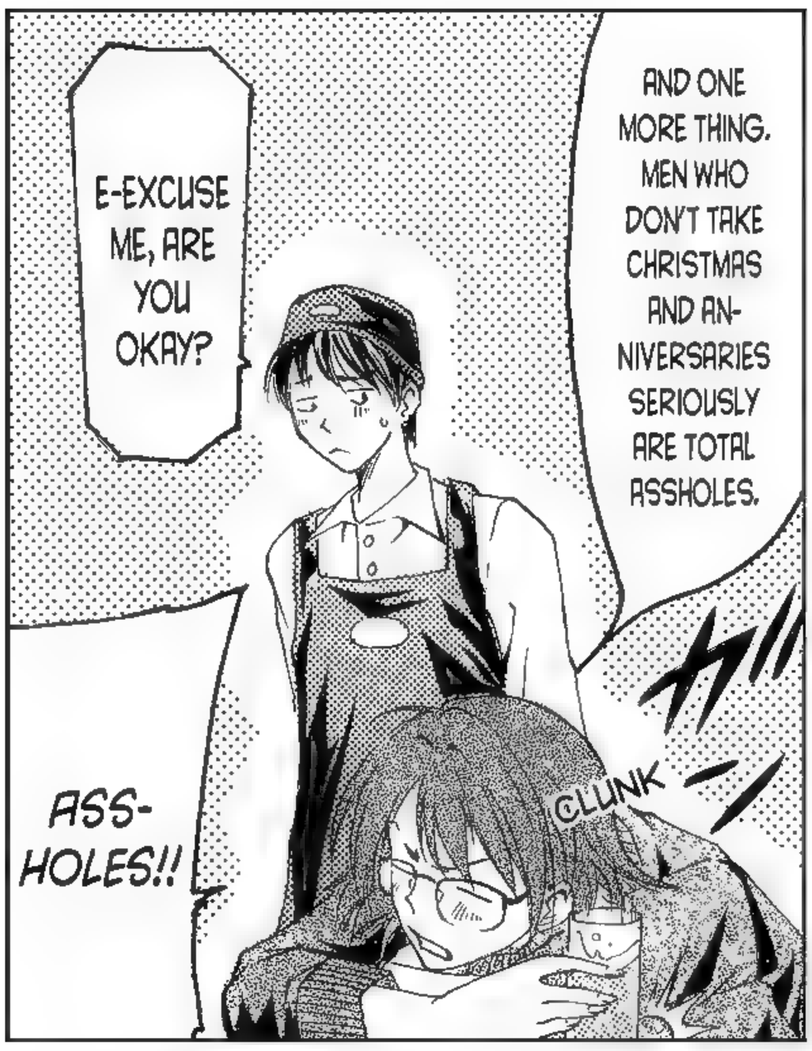
Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more an art than a science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Choushu Riki, page 9

Choushu Riki is a famous wrestler, known for a catchphrase that translates to something like "I'm not angry; when I'm angry, that's when the fight begins."

Dating party, page 46

Megumi is talking about a *gokon*, or dating party. A *gokon* is a Japanese dating ritual in which an even number of guys and girls go out together on a date.


E-EXCUSE ME, ARE YOU OKAY?
AND ONE MORE THING. MEN WHO DON'T TAKE CHRISTMAS AND ANNIVERSARIES SERIOUSLY ARE TOTAL ASSHOLES.
ASS-HOLES!!
CLUNK

Christmas Eve in Japan, page 56

In Japan, where less than 1 percent of the population identifies as Christian, Christmas is not celebrated as a religious holiday. Instead, Christmas Eve is somewhat similar to Valentine's Day in the United States. It's usually associated with couples and romance. To many young people, it's very important to have a date for Christmas Eve.

Christmas cake, page 96

Although most Americans have never heard of it, having a Christmas cake for the holiday is a British tradition that is also popular in Japan.

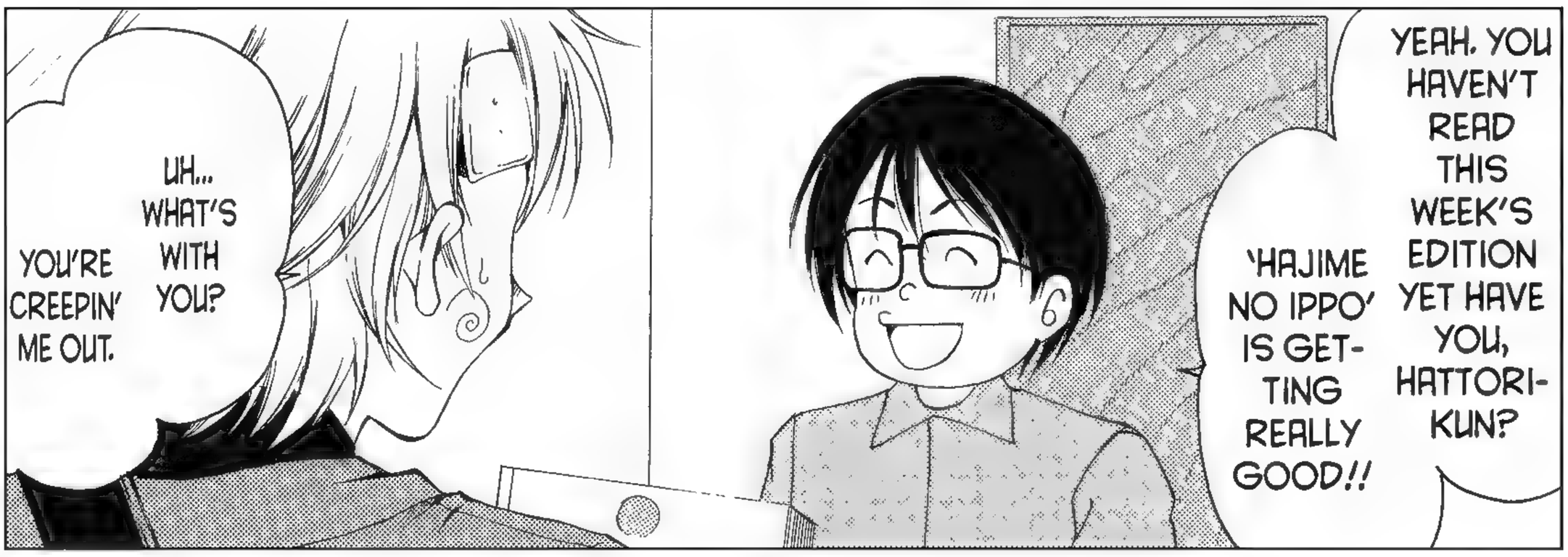
OH, YEAH.... WELL... EVERY-WHERE'S SO CROWDED ON CHRIST-MAS EVE. IT'S JUST TOO MUCH, YOU KNOW...
SO I WAS THINKING, WE SHOULD JUST HANG OUT AT YOUR APARTMENT, AYA-CHAN. I MEAN, SINCE YOU'VE GOT YOUR OWN PLACE AND EVERYTHING... I CAN BRING YOU A CHRISTMAS CAKE.

SanFreece Hiroshima, page 123

SanFreece Hiroshima is a soccer team that is part of Japan's "J-League."

Giri, page 182

"Giri choco" literally means something like "obligatory chocolate" or "duty chocolate." "Giri choco" is used to describe the chocolate that girls give to guys on Valentine's day out of obligation. For example, if a woman gave chocolate to every man in her office, so that no one felt left out, she might refer to it as "giri choco." However, if a girl gave chocolate to her boyfriend, or a guy she was in love with, that would be considered a "real" Valentine's gift.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'HAJIME NO IPPO' IS GET-TING REALLY GOOD!!

Hajime no Ippo, page 191

Hajime no ippo is a popular boxing manga that appears in *Kodansha's Weekly Shonen Magazine*.

Preview of Volume 11

We're pleased to present you with a preview of *Suzuka,* volume 11. Please check our website (www.delreymanga.com) to see when this volume will be available in English. For now you'll have to make do with Japanese!

え・・・・
え――!?

あの…
え――!?
え――!?
気を抜いてるほうが痛いでしょ？
大和くん殴られ慣れてるから
これくらいしないと効かないもんね
だからって…
スゲ――アメとムチ来た…
せっかく許してあげようと思ってたのに遊園地行ったなんて…
ちょっとくらい寂しくても我慢しなさいよ!!
…ゴメン
ホントにわかってんの!?
わかってます!!ホントにごめんなさい!!
……

…じゃあ許(ゆる)して
あげるわよ……

…うん

…ゴメン

知(し)らな
かった……

朝比奈(あさひな)がこんなに
想(おも)ってくれてた
なんて……

…あ
そうだ
ついでだから……

え……
まだ何(なに)か……

もう
泣(な)かせないでね…？

Gacha Gacha

THE NEXT REVOLUTION

Hiroyuki Tamakoshi

JUST ONE OF THE GIRLS

A whole new Gacha Gacha story line begins! Akira Hatsushiba is just your typical, average high school kid . . . until a glitch in a Gacha Gacha video game changes his life forever. Now, every time Akira sneezes, his entire body undergoes a gender-bending switcheroo! That's right, Akira is always just an *achoo* away from getting in touch with his feminine side. But it's not all bad. Akira has had a crush on Yurika Sakuraba ever since he first laid eyes on her. He's always been too shy, but now that he can change into a girl, Akira finally has a chance to get close to Yurika. Being a girl certainly has its advantages!

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The Otaku's Choice

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The Yagyu Ninja Scrolls

REVENGE OF THE HORI CLAN

Original story by Fūtaro Yamada
Manga by Masaki Segawa

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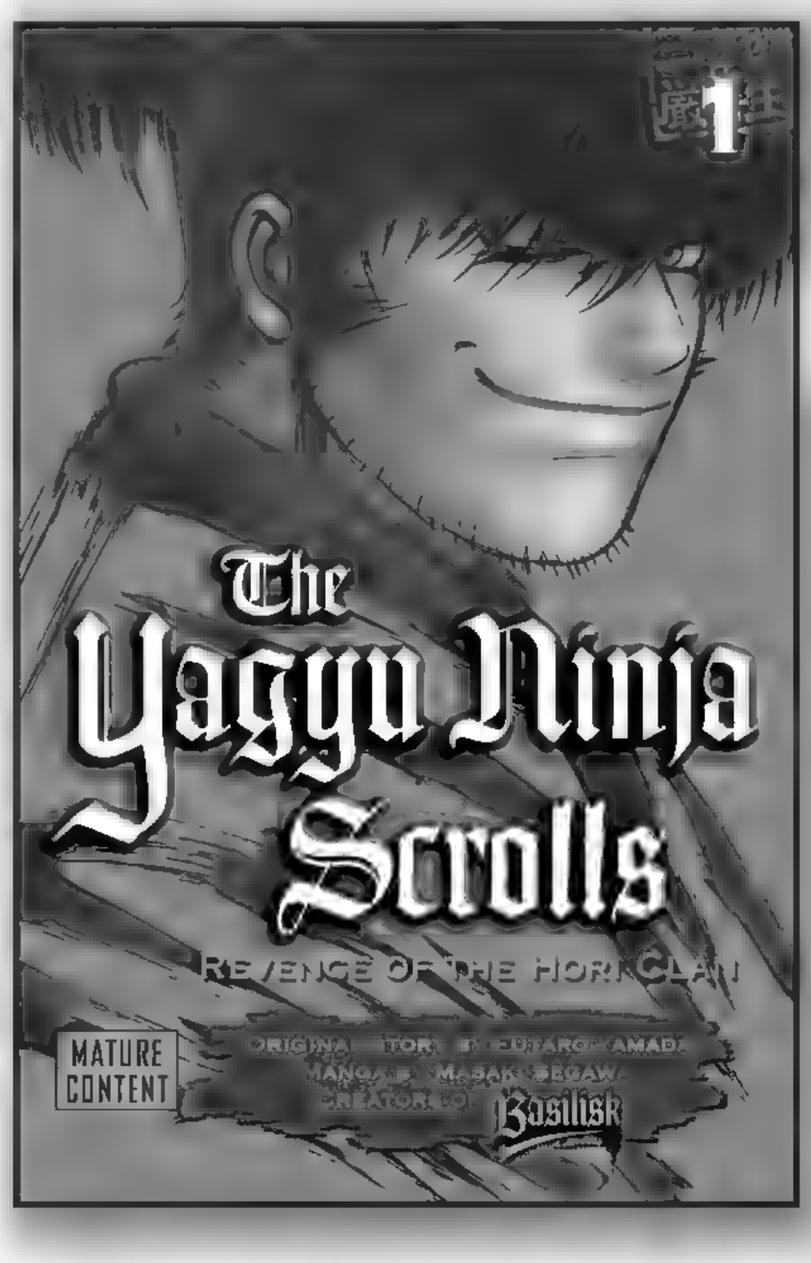
- From the creators of *Basilisk*



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Suzuka 10

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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TOK チ

TIK チ

TIK チ

TOK チ

SHIT...

I GUESS, SHE'S REALLY NOT GONNA CALL...

CLACK タ

CLICK タ

CLACK タ

CLICK タ

SUZUKA

SUZUKA

#87 The Reply

GLANCE ちら?

SIGH...

.....

BUZZ

BUZZ

RING RING

SHOCK

WHOA!!

CLICK

H-HELLO...

HELLO, YAMATO? IT'S MOM.

. . . . . !!

UH... I'M KINDA BUSY RIGHT NOW. I'LL CALL YOU BACK.

AH... DID YOU EAT THE APPLES I SENT YOU? EAT THEM SOON OR THEY'LL GO BAD.

YOUR WINTER BREAK STARTED YES-TERDAY, RIGHT?

ARE YOU COMING HOME FOR NEW YEAR'S?

I-I DON'T THINK SO... I WENT HOME OVER SUMMER, SO...

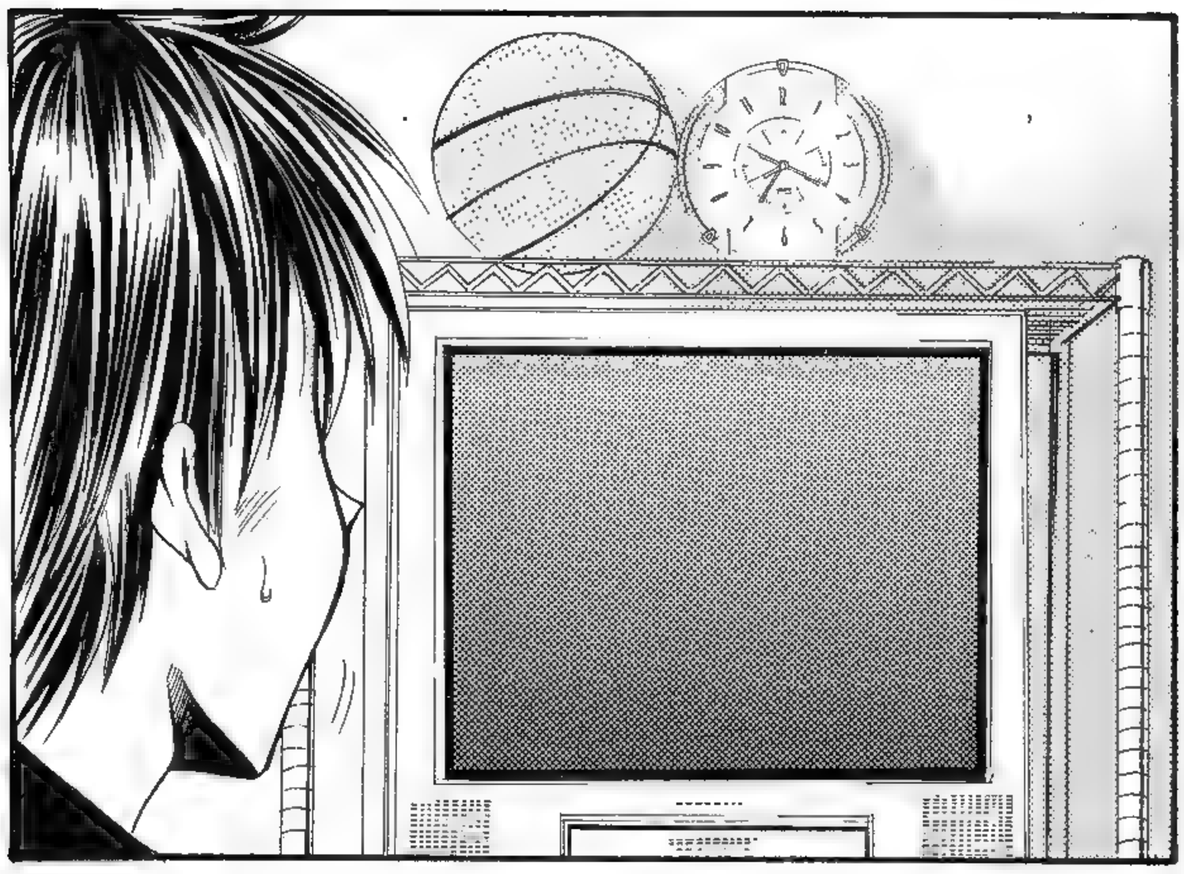
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHY DON'T YOU COME HOME? YOUR GRANDMA IS WORRIED ABOUT YOU!

OH, OKAY. I'LL LET YOU GO THEN...

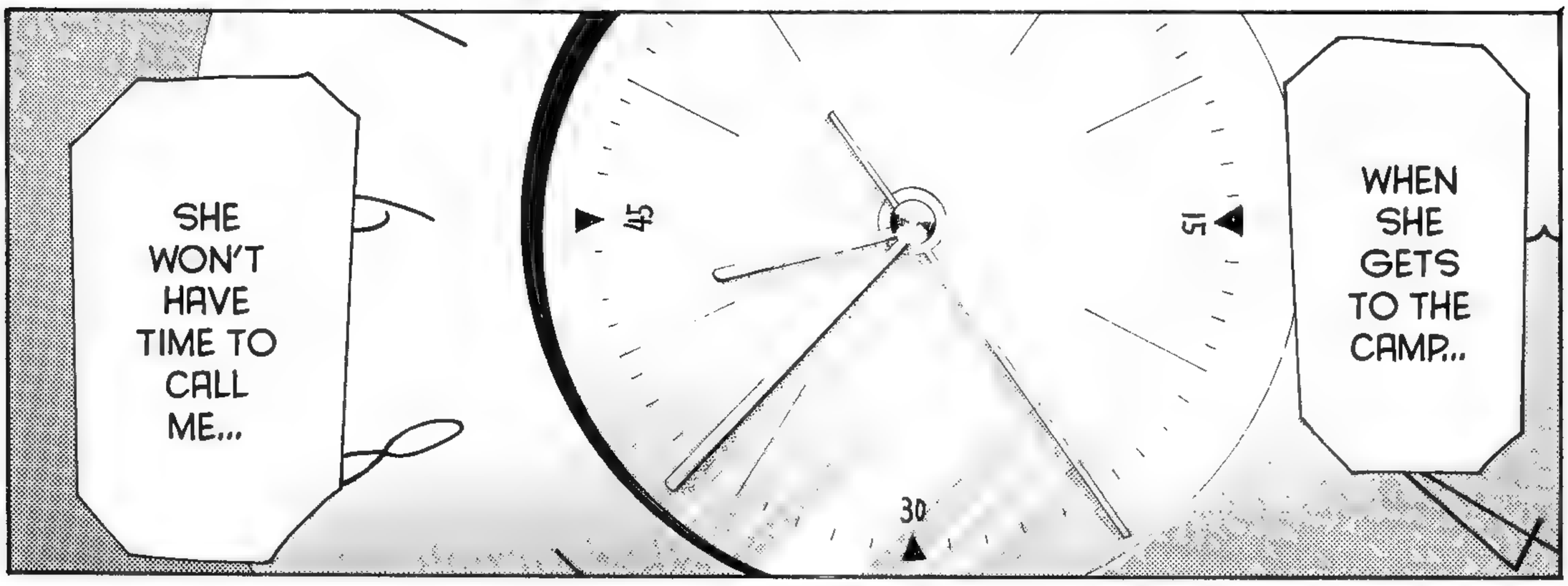
OH, AND YOUR DAD WANTS TO KNOW IF YOU GAVE THAT SAKE TO YOUR FRIENDS...

UH HUH, YEAH I DID. BYE, MOM!!

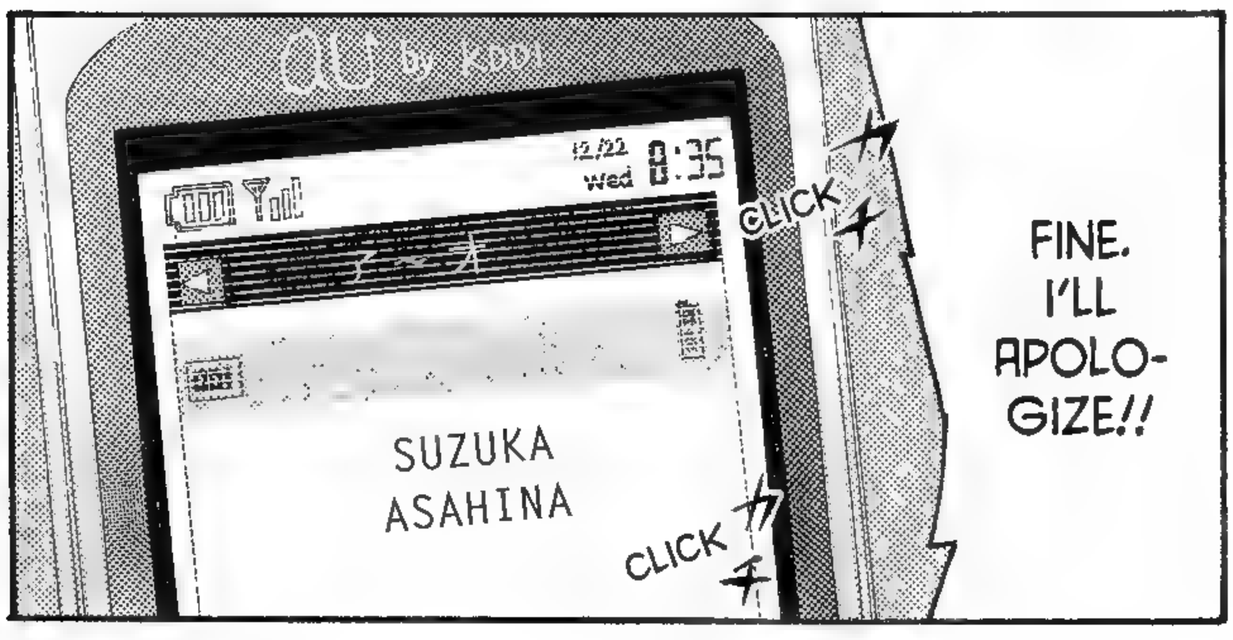
CLICK



FALLUMP
SHIT...


SHE WON'T HAVE TIME TO CALL ME...
45
51
30
WHEN SHE GETS TO THE CAMP...

YOU WANT ME TO CALL YOU FIRST, HUH!?
OKAY FINE!


au by KDDI
12/22 wed 8:35
CLICK
CLICK
SUZUKA ASAHINA
FINE. I'LL APOLO-GIZE!!

YOU HAVE REACHED THE VOICE MAILBOX OF...

WHAT...?!

THUMP

ドキン

THUMP

ドキン

.....

BLEEP

IT DIDN'T EVEN RING.

.....

I WANNA TALK TO YOU ABOUT YESTERDAY, SO CALL ME!

WHAT THE HELL...

CLICK

CLICK

CLICK

AT LEAST LET ME TALK TO YOU.

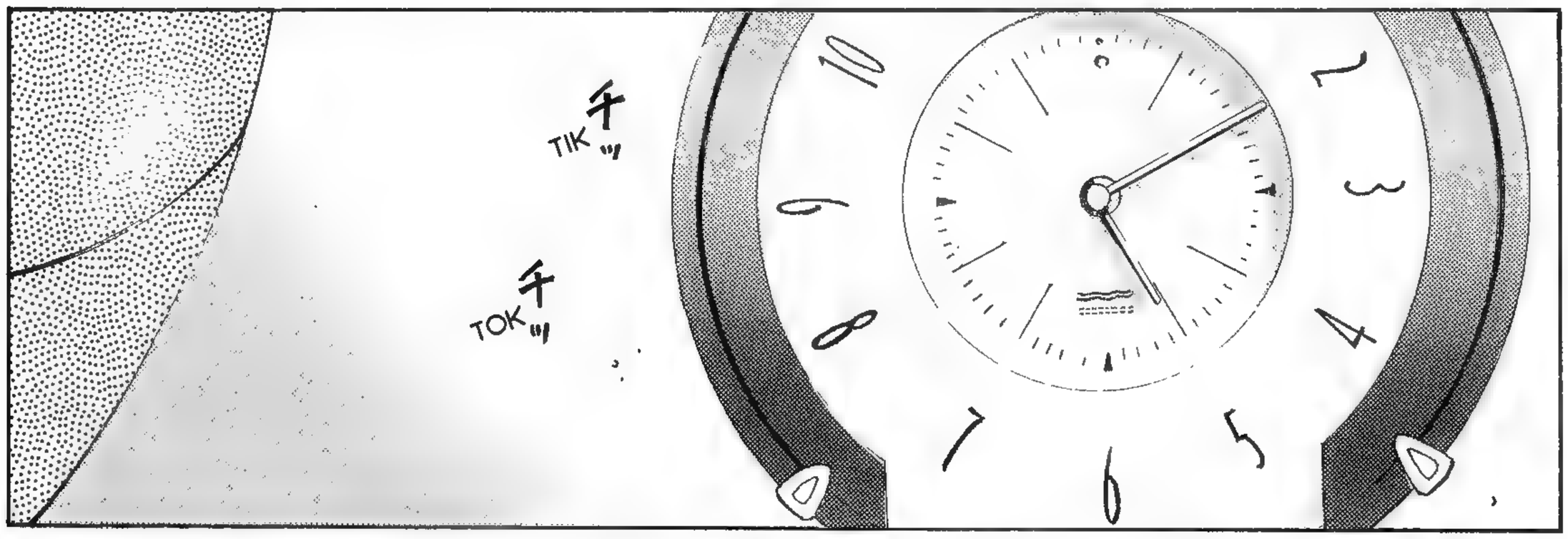
FWUP

ALL RIGHT... SEND!

GO!!

WHEN SHE CALLS... I'LL GIVE HER A PIECE OF MY MIND.

ASAHITSU BATUS


TIK チ
〃
TOK チ
〃

WHAT'S GOING ON? SHE STILL HASN'T CALLED AND IT'S GETTING PRETTY LATE.
SHE MUST'VE SEEN MY MESSAGE BY NOW...
PWAP

ON CHRIST-MAS EVE, COUPLES WALK HAND IN HAND...
SQUIRM
SQUIRM

AH...

...ENJOYING THE GOR-GEOUS DISPLAYS OF CHRISTMAS LIGHTS...

12/22 WEDNESDAY 8:35

TO: SUZUKA ASAHINA

NO SUBJECT

I DIDN'T EVEN WRITE "PLEASE," AND WHY THE HELL DID I USE AN EX-CLAMATION MARK?

MAYBE SHE DIDN'T LIKE THE TONE OF MY MESSAGE, AND NOW SHE'S PISSED...

I WANNA TALK TO YOU ABOUT YESTERDAY, SO CALL ME!

WAIT...

.....

.....!

KNOCK KNOCK

YAMATO-KUN. DINNER IS READY. COME ON DOWN.

A-ALL RIGHT.

MAYBE SHE'S EATING DINNER, TOO, AND SHE'S JUST WAITING TILL AFTERWARD TO CALL.

BUT...

SIGH...

MAYBE SHE...

AAAHHH...

FLUP

FLUP

TIK

TOK

TIK

YEP, SHE'S DEFINITELY PISSED.

SHE'S PISSED.

MIKI HASHIBA

AH...

I KNOW!!

FWISH

NO...

BAD IDEA... I CAN'T CALL HER... SHE'LL JUST GIVE ME A STUPID LECTURE.

DING DONG

DING DONG

HEY, YAMATO-KUN. YOUR ESCORTS HAVE AR-RIVED!

GRRR

WHAT DID YOU SAY!? WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TALKING TO!?

POUND

POUND

I DIDN'T ORDER AN ESCORT!! GO HOME!!

WELL, YOU'D BETTER WATCH YOUR BACK, YAMATO!

BOOM

OH YEAH!!

KNOCK

KNOCK

JUST OPEN THE GODDAMN DOOR!! I LEFT MY TENRYUU CD IN YOUR ROOM!

SHUT UP. LIKE I GIVE A SHIT!

SIGH...

CLOP

CLOP

CLOP

.....

I SHOULD...

...APOLO-GIZE FOR SENDING THAT TEXT...

YOU!

I'M SORRY FOR SENDING YOU SUCH A RUDE MESSAGE BEFORE. PLEASE GIVE ME A CALL BACK OR TEXT ME WHEN YOU CAN.

UH...

GOOD...

OKAY...

I'M SORRY FOR...

...SENDING YOU SUCH A RUDE MESSAGE..

CLICK カチ

CLICK カチ

CLICK カチ

CLICK カチ

"GIVE ME A CALL BACK..."

...NO WAIT, "PLEASE GIVE ME A CALL BACK OR TEXT ME WHEN YOU CAN."

CLICK レロ

I'LL HAVE TO TRY NOT TO SOUND MAD WHEN SHE CALLS...

AND... SEND...

ONSEN

PLINK

DID YOU HEAR ME!?

ARE YOU STILL ASLEEP!?

YAMATO-KUN, BREAK-FAST IS READY!

I'M GOING TO CLEAR THE TABLE IF YOU DON'T COME DOWN RIGHT NOW!!

KNOCK

KNOCK

GEEZ!!

N-NOTHING...

NO CALLS...

...NOT EVEN A TEXT MESSAGE.

SLUMP

スー

I'M SO SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED THE OTHER NIGHT! IT WAS MY FAULT, TOO. PLEASE FORGIVE ME, AND PLEASE TEXT ME BACK.

I'D BETTER APOLO-GIZE RIGHT AWAY!!

THIS IS BAD!! THIS IS REALLY BAD!

ALL RIGHT...

(11 STARE

?...

PLEASE, PLEASE REPLY THIS TIME!

SCRATCH

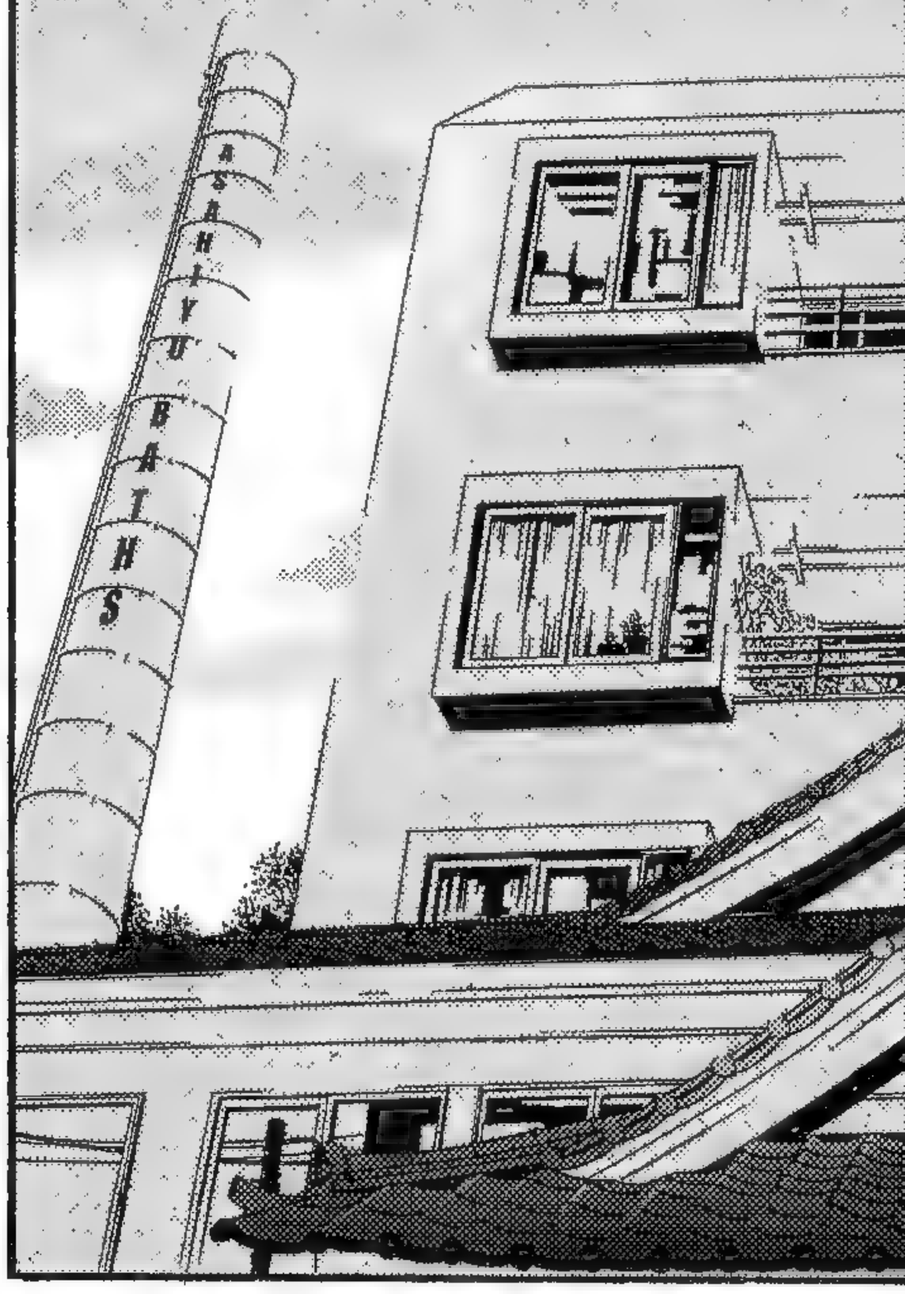
NO... I CAN'T SAY "IT WAS MY FAULT, TOO!"

IT SHOULD BE "IT WAS ALL MY FAULT!!" I'VE GOTTA APOLO-GIZE ABOUT THE CAKE, TOO.

カリ
チャ
CLICK

I'M FROM THE LOST AND FOUND DOOR TO DOOR SERVICE CENTER!! I'M HERE TO DELIVER YOUR COAT!

HOWDY!!



HEY...

.....

.....!?

WHAT ARE YOU HA-HA-ING ABOUT? SHIT, DUDE. YOU GOTTA EAT SOME-THING!! HERE, HAVE THIS APPLE!!

H-HA... HA...

301

NHK

YAMATO AKITSUKI

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU JUST AGED ONE HUNDRED YEARS!?

W-WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED TO YOU!?

SHE MIGHT EVEN BREAK UP WITH ME.

CHOMP

SHE'S NEVER BEEN THIS MAD BEFORE.

IT'S NOT LIKE SHE COULDN'T MAKE TIME TO TEXT ME.

DON'T WORRY. SHE'S PROBABLY JUST RE-ALLY BUSY WITH TRAIN-ING RIGHT NOW!!

YEAH, THANKS... IS THAT SUP-POSED TO MAKE ME FEEL BETTER?

WELL... DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT TOO MUCH!! YOU'LL SEE HER IN TWO DAYS!!

UH HUH...

SO THEN YOU GUYS GOT INTO A FIGHT AND NOW SHE WON'T RETURN YOUR CALLS.

Y E A H . . .

WHAT...?

HEY... WHY DON'T YOU COME OUT WITH ME TOMORROW NIGHT?

SHE SAID SHE'D DO IT IF YOU AND YUI-CHAN CAME ALONG THOUGH.

I ASKED HER OUT, BUT SHE WASN'T INTO THE IDEA OF JUST ME AND HER HANGING OUT.

WELL... REMEMBER THAT CHICK WITH THE BLEACHED HAIR FROM THE OTHER NIGHT?

ARE YOU KIDDING ME? YOU THINK I'M GONNA DO SOMETHING THAT'LL MAKE ASAHINA HATE ME EVEN MORE?

OKAY, OKAY.

ASAHIYU BATHS

TOMORROW...? BUT IT'S CHRISTMAS EVE? AREN'T YOU GONNA SPEND IT WITH YOUR GIRLFRIEND...?

THAT'S CHRISTMAS EVE. I'M TALKING ABOUT THE DAYTIME!!

THAT'S A PRETTY PATHETIC WAY TO SPEND CHRISTMAS EVE. WHAT IF SHE STILL DOESN'T CALL OR TEXT YOU BACK. YOU'LL GET EVEN MORE DEPRESSED.

SO YOU'RE JUST GONNA SIT AROUND ALL DAY WAITING FOR THE PHONE TO RING?

SHUDDER

YOU'RE NOT HERE. ♪ I'M ALL ALONE ON CHRIST-MAS EVE. ♪

.....

S-SHUT UP.

WHAT IF SHE CALLS WHEN I'M WITH YOU GUYS...

COME ON, GO OUT WITH US AND HAVE SOME FUN FOR A CHANGE.

WHAT DO YOU SAY!?

.....

SUZUKA-CHAN WON'T GET MAD IF YOU'RE JUST HANGING OUT WITH FRIENDS!!

SHE WON'T CALL!! NOPE. NO WAY. SHE WON'T.

L-LOOK...

ALL RIGHT, THEN IT'S SETTLED!! MEET ME IN FRONT OF THE STATION TOMORROW AT 8 A.M.!! MAKE SURE YOU GO TO BED EARLY TONIGHT!

GOOD MORN-ING!!

YOU GUYS ARE EARLY.

YEAH, WHAT'S UP.

OF COURSE WE'RE EARLY. WE DIDN'T WANNA LEAVE YOU LADIES HANGIN'.

WELL...

...HERE I AM.

CONTINUED IN VOLUME 11